AMAZING MAN • THE SHARK • IRON SKULL • MINIMIDGET • MIGHTY MAN • CHUCK HARDY • DON DIXON

AMAZING-MAN COMICS

10¢

December



WEBCOMIC UNIVERSE.COM

Uncle Joe's Christmas Treat:
FREE GIFTS FOR ALL!

How would you like to get some free Christmas presents from Uncle Joe? Well, I'll be glad to do this—if you'll help me by telling me the things you'd like to have this Christmas! If you will do this, I in turn can help the manufacturers plan for even nicer things for next Christmas! Just answer the questions below honestly and carefully and I'll see to it that you get three valuable Christmas gifts absolutely free! I'll be waiting to hear from you, so please answer the questions and send the coupon to me right away!

Simply Answer The Questions Carefully
And Return The Coupon To Uncle Joe Today!

Please tell Uncle Joe which of the following items and toys you now own, which you hope or expect to get this Christmas (1939) and which you expect to get next Christmas: (just check the right answer in each case)

	I Now Own	I expect to get this Xmas 1939	I hope to get next Xmas 1940
1. Aeroplanes or accessories			
2. Athletic Goods			
3. Bicycle, velocipede			
4. Boats, or Boat Models			
5. Books			
6. Cameras and Supplies			
7. Carpenter Tools, Work Bench			
8. Chemistry Set			
9. Electric Trains, or accessories			
10. Magic Set			
11. Musical Instrument			
12. Pen and Pencil Set			
13. Phonograph and Records			
14. Radio			
15. Winter Sport Equipment (sleds, skiis, skates, etc.)			
16. Table Tennis Set			
17. Typewriter			
18. Watch			

Uncle Joe can't send you any of the above as his Christmas present to you, but he will send you any *three* of the following as gifts, in return for your answering this questionnaire. Be sure to check the ones you want! (any three)

☐ 40-page sample copy of "Scott's Monthly Journal"—leading stamp collector's magazine. Contains latest news for postage stamp collectors; new issues, etc.

☐ "Home Workshop Handbook"—16 pages of valuable advice on how to have a home workshop. Pictures of 24 articles on which free instructions for making are available.

☐ 36-page sample copy of "Model Builder"—10c de luxe magazine giving pictures, plans and complete instructions for building model cities, factories, wharfs, derricks, etc.

☐ "Lionel Train Handbook"—52 pages in full color—showing pictures, parts lists, etc., of Lionel locomotives, trains, dump cars, trackage, signals, tunnels, bridges, freight cars, etc., as well as blueprints for their assembly and use.

☐ For bicycle riders: handbook on "How To Ride And Care For Bicycles"—ALSO Cycle Trades Safety League membership button, card, and decal for bike.

☐ Remington's valuable self-instruction book on how to typewrite well—6 easy lessons, 4 easy exercises. Includes instructions on how to operate and care for portable typewriters.

Now, here's one last thing Uncle Joe would like to know—what things you influenced your family to buy during the last month. Just show them here:

Products Purchased	How I influenced my family to buy them:

Go over the questions and make sure each one is carefully answered—cut out this coupon on the dotted line—and mail it to UNCLE JOE, c/o CENTAUR PUBLICATIONS, INC., 220 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N. Y. Your gifts will be sent as soon as possible.

Your Name (PRINT) ..... Age .....

Address ..... City .....

State ..... Father's occupation: .....

Special Offers For Boys And Girls

SPECIAL OFFER !

A "Cross-Words Card Game" will be sent to every boy and girl who cuts out this advertisement and mails it with 5c to, Uncle Joe, Room 1609, 220 Fifth Ave., New York City. It's a swell game—you cut out your own deck of playing cards—the cards are dealt—and you're off to loads of fun! Rules included — only 5c while our supply lasts!

PICTURE PUZZLE BOOK

Here's a JUMBO buy — a big, thick "Picture Puzzle Book", filled with funny drawings and over 100 puzzles! After you've finished solving and playing with the puzzle pictures, you can color them. The answers to the puzzles are in the back of the book. Send 10c for your copy (in U.S.A. only) to:

CENTAUR PUBLICATIONS, INC.
220 Fifth Ave. New York, N. Y.

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AMAZING MYSTERY FUNNIES
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For Stamp Collectors



For Christmas Fun



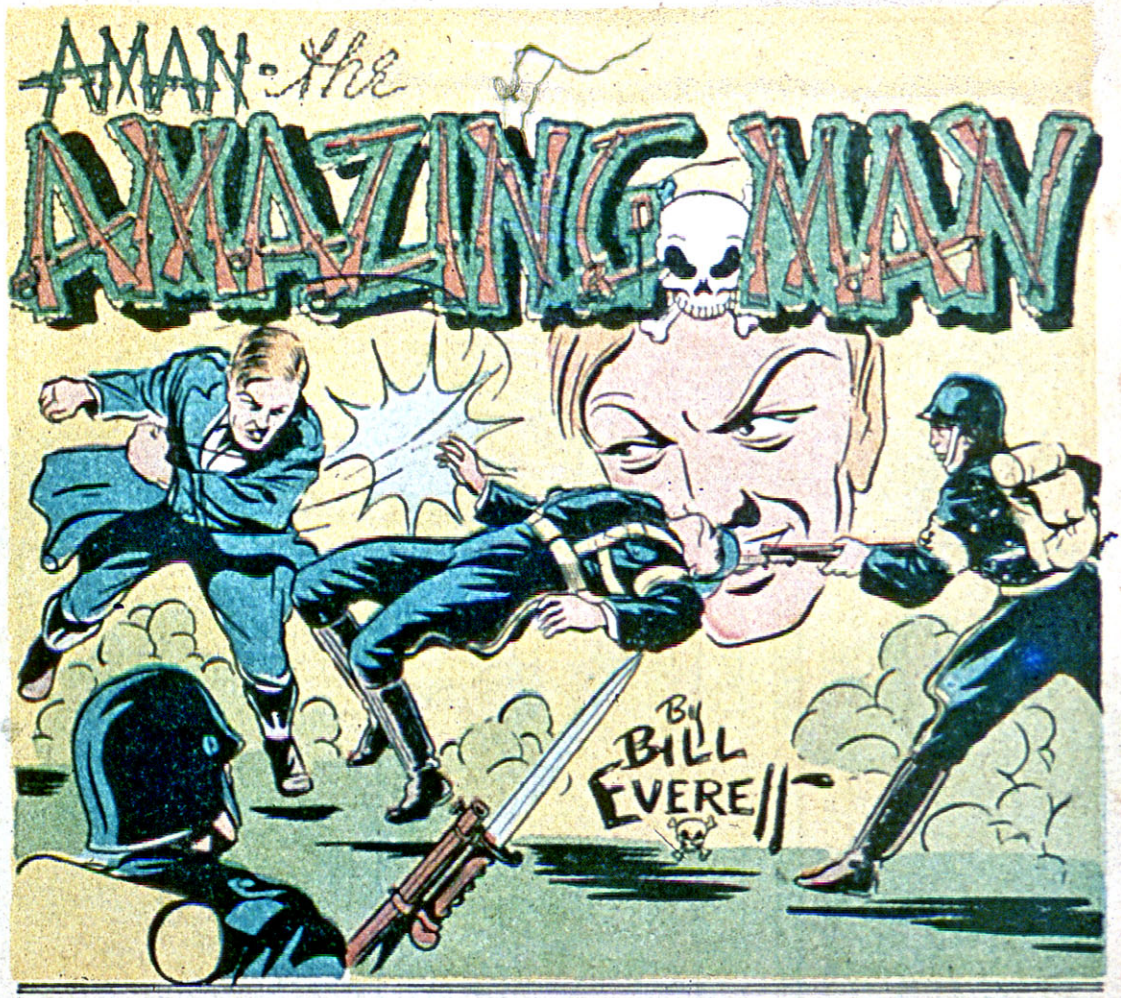
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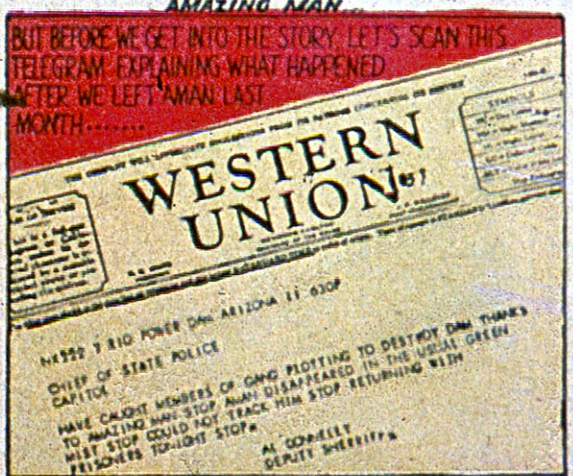
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AMAN-The AMAZING MAN



IN TIBET, 25 YEARS AGO, THE *COUNCIL OF SEVEN* SELECTED AN ORPHAN AND EACH TAUGHT HIM ALL THEY KNEW...HE GREW TO MANHOOD, AND AFTER PASSING MANY IMPORTANT TESTS, PROVED HIS AMAZING STRENGTH, KNOWLEDGE AND POWER... FINALLY, GIVEN THE SECRET OF DISAPPEARANCE BY A "GREEN MIST", HE GOES INTO THE WORLD AS AMAN, THE *AMAZING MAN*...

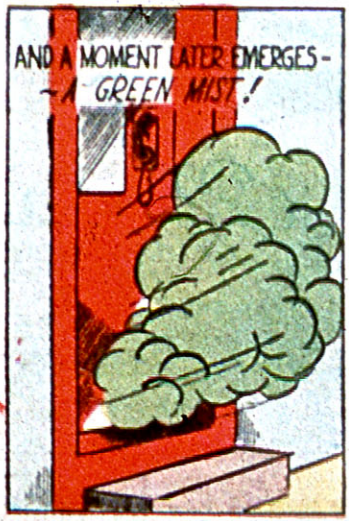


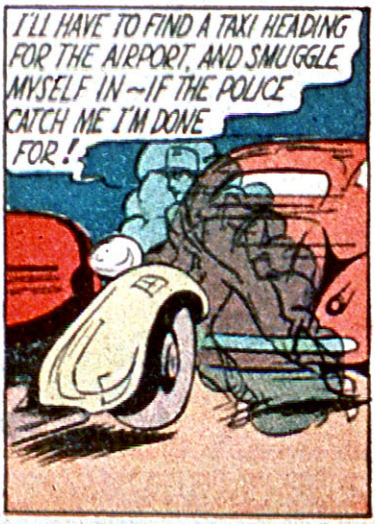


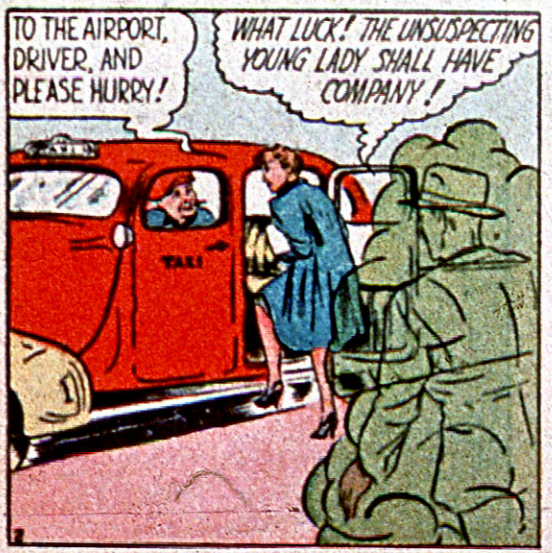

EVENING COURIER
EXTRA!
EXTRA!
WAR DECLAR
ALLIES GO TO AID OF POL
PEACE PACT REJECTED
INVASION OF POLAND SEEN AS DIRECT AGGRESSION
HITLER TO GO AHEAD WITH PLANS

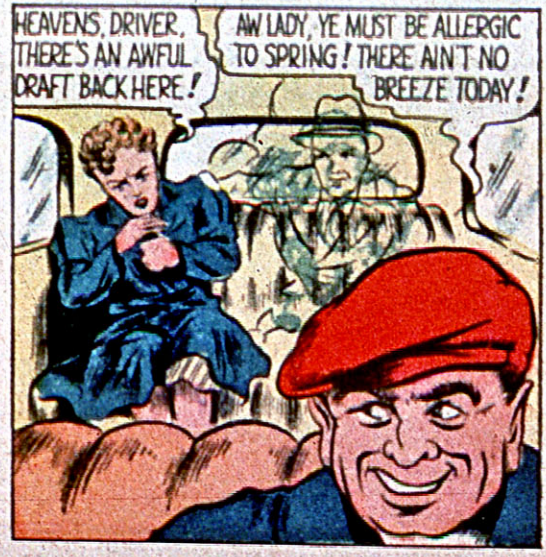

WELL! THIS SORT OF SPOILS MY PLANS FOR GETTING EVEN WITH "THE GREAT QUESTION"~BUT THAT CAN WAIT~WAR WILL BE A MUCH MORE INTERESTING ADVENTURE! I'LL HAVE TO GET MY AIRPLANE AWAY FROM THE POLICE AT THE AIRPORT SOMEHOW!

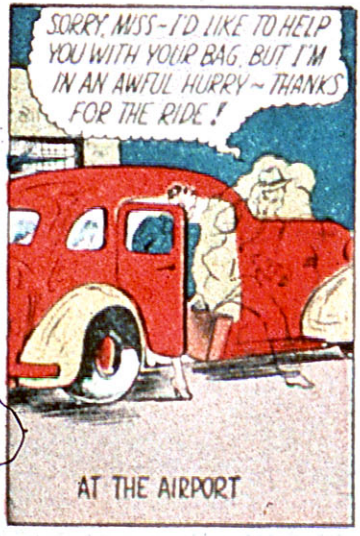

UNDER COVER OF A DARKENED DOORWAY, AMAN ASSUMES HIS MOST STARTLING DISGUISE!


AND A MOMENT LATER EMERGES~A GREEN MIST!


I'LL HAVE TO FIND A TAXI HEADING FOR THE AIRPORT, AND SMUGGLE MYSELF IN~IF THE POLICE CATCH ME I'M DONE FOR!

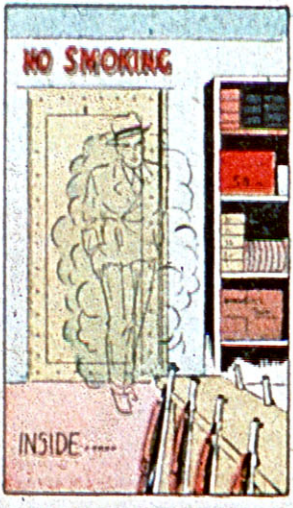

TO THE AIRPORT, DRIVER, AND PLEASE HURRY!
WHAT LUCK! THE UNSUSPECTING YOUNG LADY SHALL HAVE COMPANY!
TAXI


HEAVENS, DRIVER, THERE'S AN AWFUL DRAFT BACK HERE!
AW LADY, YE MUST BE ALLERGIC TO SPRING! THERE AIN'T NO BREEZE TODAY!


SORRY, MISS - I'D LIKE TO HELP YOU WITH YOUR BAG, BUT I'M IN AN AWFUL HURRY - THANKS FOR THE RIDE!
AT THE AIRPORT

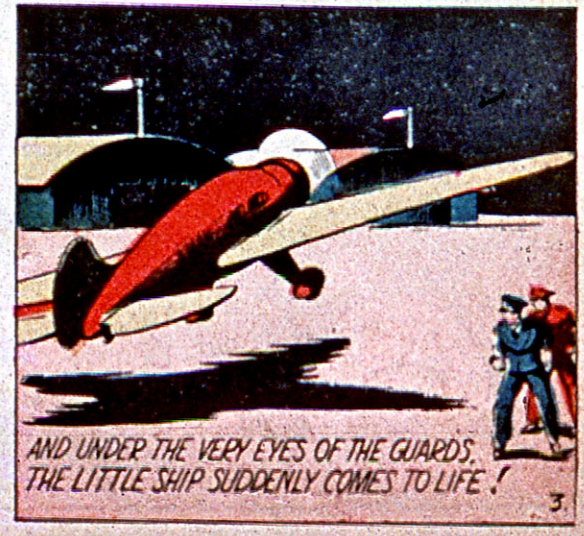

DUSK IS FALLING, AND UNDER COVER OF ITS SHADOWS AMAN PREPARES TO ENTER THE ARMY WAREHOUSE...
DANGER
EXPLOSIV

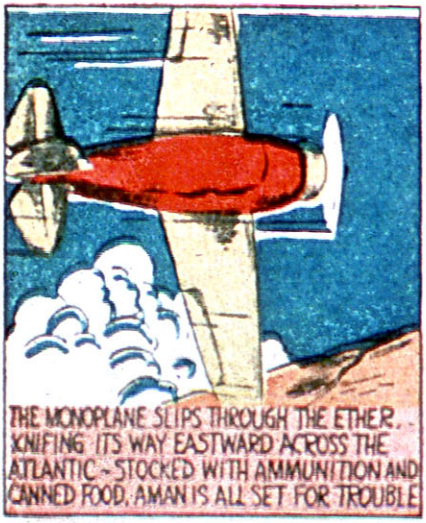

A FEW MOMENTS TINKERING WITH THE LOCK AND THE INVISIBLE "AMAZING-MAN" OPENS THE DOOR!

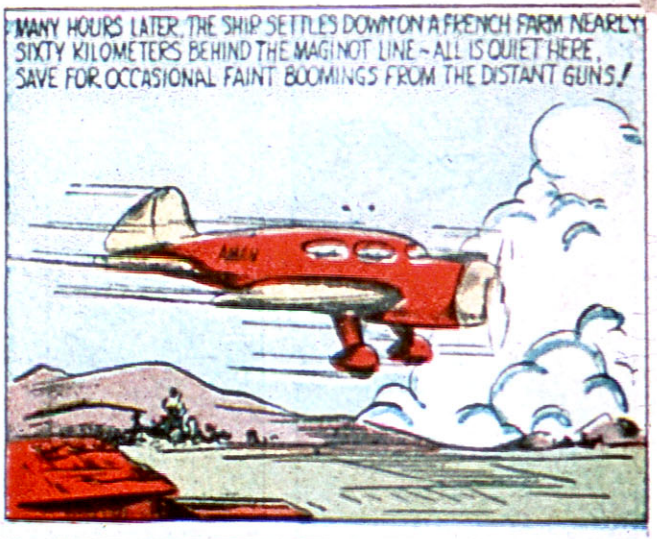

NO SMOKING
INSIDE....

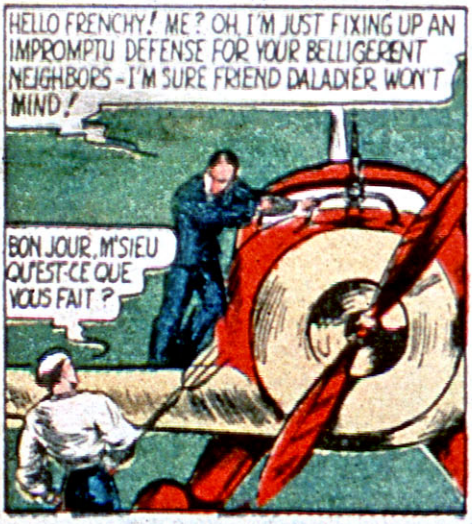

HERE'S WHAT I WANT! MACHINE-GUNS AND A FEW THOUSAND ROUNDS OF AMMUNITION! NOW TO SMUGGLE THEM INTO MY PLANE -
LEWIS .30 CAL AIRCRAFT

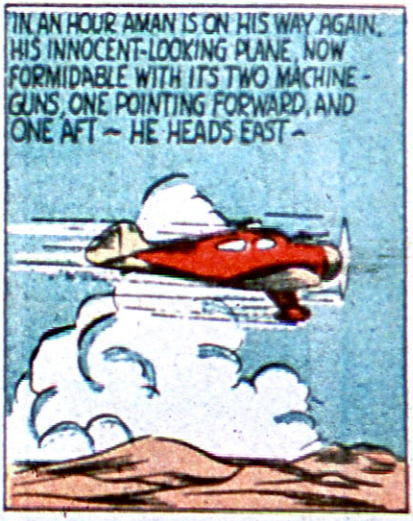

UNNOTICED THE CRATED MACHINE-GUNS, APPARENTLY SUSPENDED IN THE AIR, DEPOSIT THEMSELVES IN AMAN'S PLANE!


AND UNDER THE VERY EYES OF THE GUARDS, THE LITTLE SHIP SUDDENLY COMES TO LIFE!


THE MONOPLANE SLIPS THROUGH THE ETHER, KNIFING ITS WAY EASTWARD ACROSS THE ATLANTIC ~ STOCKED WITH AMMUNITION AND CANNED FOOD, AMAN IS ALL SET FOR TROUBLE

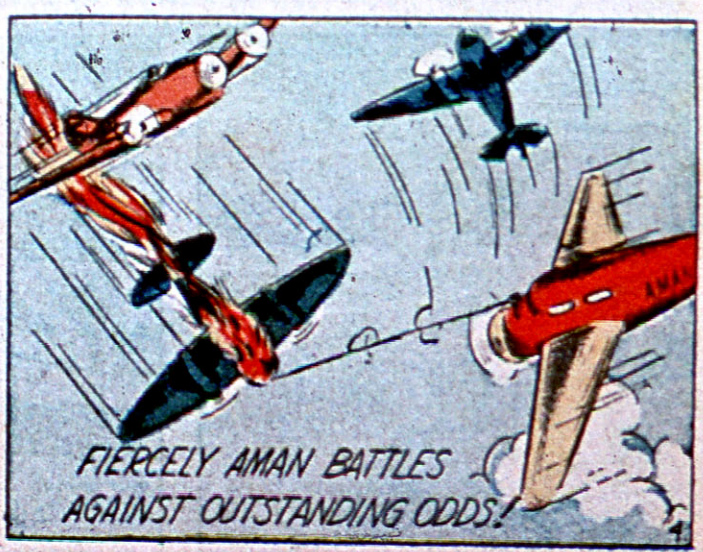

MANY HOURS LATER, THE SHIP SETTLES DOWN ON A FRENCH FARM NEARLY SIXTY KILOMETERS BEHIND THE MAGINOT LINE ~ ALL IS QUIET HERE, SAVE FOR OCCASIONAL FAINT BOOMINGS FROM THE DISTANT GUNS!
AMAN


HELLO FRENCHY! ME? OH, I'M JUST FIXING UP AN IMPROMPTU DEFENSE FOR YOUR BELLIGERENT NEIGHBORS ~ I'M SURE FRIEND DALADIER WON'T MIND!
BON JOUR, M'SIEU QU'EST-CE QUE VOUS FAIT?


IN AN HOUR AMAN IS ON HIS WAY AGAIN. HIS INNOCENT-LOOKING PLANE, NOW FORMIDABLE WITH ITS TWO MACHINE-GUNS, ONE POINTING FORWARD, AND ONE AFT ~ HE HEADS EAST ~


And over No-man's land between the Maginot and Siegfried Lines

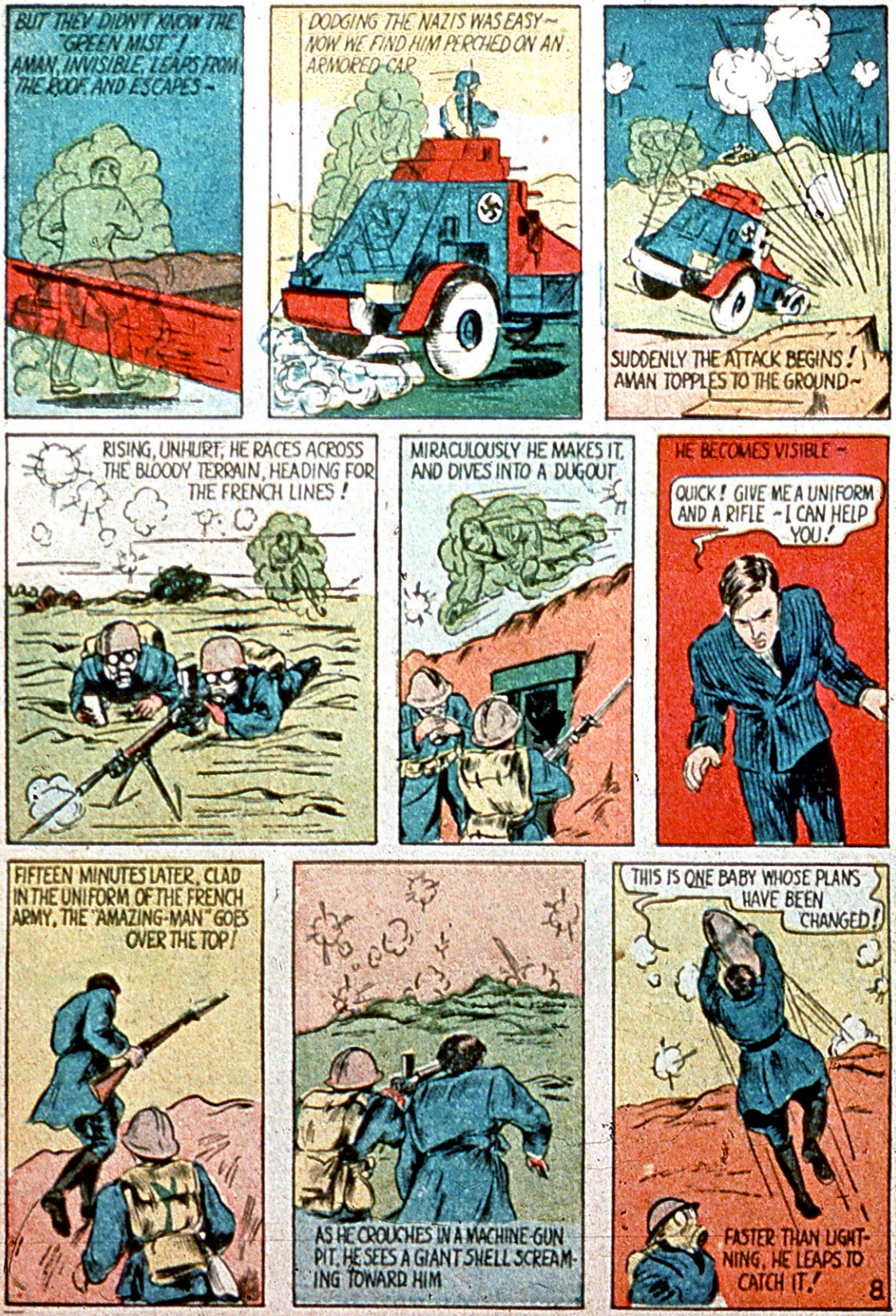

HE MEETS THE ENEMY'S RECONNAISSANCE PLANES! THE ATTACK IS INSTANT!

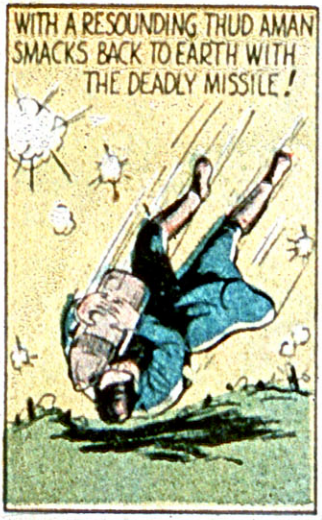

FIERCELY AMAN BATTLES AGAINST OUTSTANDING ODDS!
AMAN


SUDDENLY, HOWEVER, HIS SHIP BURSTS INTO FLAMES, STRUCK BY A MYRIAD OF ENEMY BULLETS
BUT AMAN LEAPS TO THE SAFETY OF HIS PARACHUTE!
ONLY TO FIND HIMSELF DROPPING INTO THE HANDS OF THE AGGRESSORS....
WAS VILST DU HABEN?
GUD NACHT, MEIN HERR! I MUST ASK YOU TO ACCOMPANY ME
AMERICAN, YOU ARE, BY THIS DECREE OF COURT-MARTIAL, SENTENCED TO ONE YEAR OF PENAL SERVITUDE IN CONCENTRATION CAMP NUMBER 23365 AC...
AND BY THE "COURT"'S DECREE, AMAN IS TRANSFERRED FROM BERLIN TO A SMALL CONCENTRATION CAMP IN THE NORTHERN PART OF GERMANY
IT WOULD APPEAR THAT I AM ONE OF THE MILLIONS OF INNOCENT VICTIMS OF THE AGGRESSOR'S REGIME, SAVE THAT I AM NOT EXACTLY "INNOCENT"!
BUT THEY SHALL NOT HOLD ME! THE "GREEN MIST", AS USUAL, SHALL BE MY LIBERATOR!
BUT NO! IT DOES NOT WORK! SOMETHING HAS GONE AMISS!
5

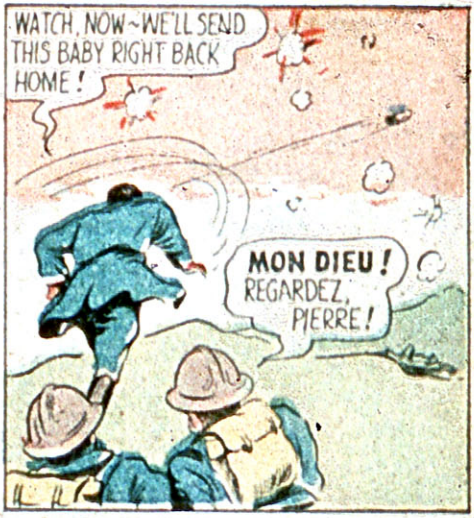

I HAVE FORGOTTEN THE WEEKLY HYPODERMIC INJECTION! PROFESSOR NIKA WARNED ME THAT I MUST USE HIS SOLUTION AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK TO MAINTAIN MY CAPACITY FOR MAKING MYSELF INVISIBLE — THIS PUTS ME IN A VERY BAD SPOT!
ACH, MEIN HERR, VY MUST YOU LOOK ZO MISERABLE? ZINGS ARE NOT ALVAYS ZO BAD! VILL YOU HAFF ZUM ZOUP?
NO! GO AWAY! DON'T BOTHER ME!
WAIT! FRITZIE, YOU LOOK LIKE AN INTELLIGENT MAN, AND PERHAPS YOU DON'T BELIEVE IN "MAGIC" ~ BUT I WANT TO SHOW YOU SOMETHING ~ I POSSESS AN OBJECT THAT CAN MAKE YOU THE MOST POWERFUL MAN IN THE ENTIRE GERMAN EMPIRE, PROVIDING YOU USE IT DISCREETLY ~ COME ASIDE AND LET ME DEMONSTRATE!
YOU ARE A FINE SPECIMEN OF A FINE RACE, AND WITH THIS RING AS YOUR "SLAVE" YOU MAY RULE THE WHOLE WORLD ~ WITH THIS RING ON YOUR FINGER YOU HAVE THE STRENGTH OF A HUNDRED MEN, THE BRAINS OF A HUNDRED SCIENTISTS, AND THE PHYSICAL ALERTNESS OF A HUNDRED ANTELOPE ~ WITH THIS RING, THE WORLD IS YOURS!
SEE HOW EASY IT IS? WEARING THE RING, I CAN SMASH MY BARE FIST THROUGH A SOLID BRICK WALL ~ WATCH NOW!
AND WITH PRACTICALLY NO EFFORT I DEFY THE LAW OF GRAVITY BY SPRINGING LIGHTLY TO THE ROOF OF THIS BUILDING ~ AND THAT ISN'T ALL ~
YOU MAY ASK ME ANY QUESTION THAT POPS INTO YOUR MIND, AND I WILL GUARANTEE TO ANSWER IT! WHAT MORE CAN ONE ASK? LOOK, FRITZIE, I MAKE THIS PROPOSITION TO YOU ~ IF YOU CAN GET MY PERSONAL BELONGINGS BACK TO ME - ALL OF THEM - I'LL GIVE YOU THE RING!
APPEALING TO THE GERMAN'S VANITY, A MAN HAS STRUCK A RESPONSIVE CHORD ~ AND BY PROMISING WONDERS, HE WINS HIS CAUSE ....
JA! JA! I GET DER BELONGINGS FOR YOU! YOU GIFF ME DER RING, JA? I GET DOT STUFF NOW!
6


GRIMLY AMAN SMILES AS THE NAZI GUARD DEPARTS----
FOOL! HE DOESN'T KNOW THAT I CAN DO THESE THINGS ANYWAY - THE RING HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH IT! ALL I WANT NOW IS THE HYPODERMIC NEEDLE AND NIKA'S FORMULA!
IN A FEW MOMENTS THE GUARD RETURNS
JA, MEIN HERR, HERE IST DER BELONGINGS - NOW VERE IST DOT RING, EH?
AH - MEIN LIEBER! DUNKER! I WILL GIVE YOU THE RING IN A MOMENT---
NEIN! WAS IST DAS! WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH THAT BUNDLE?
ACH, DER KAPITAN!
OKAY, BUTCH, LET'S HAVE NO TROUBLE - THAT PACKAGE BELONGS TO ME! NOW BEAT IT!
GOTT IN HIMMEL!
QUICK AS A FLASH AMAN SNATCHES THE PACKAGE FROM THE HANDS OF THE DUMBFOUNDED NAZI!
SORRY, CHILDREN, BUT I'VE NO TIME TO PLAY! (I'LL HAVE TO MOVE PLENTY FAST NOW!)
AND BEFORE THE BEWILDERED GUARDS COME TO LIFE, AMAN LEAPS TO THE ROOF OF THE CANTEEN BUILDING!
QUICKLY HE LOADS THE HYPODERMIC NEEDLE, FOUND IN THE BUNDLE WITH THE REST OF HIS THINGS, AND INJECTS THE MAGICAL FLUID INTO HIS ARM!
HE IS CROUCHING BEHIND THE PARAPET OF THE ROOF! AFTER HIM, MEN, AND SHOOT TO KILL!
7

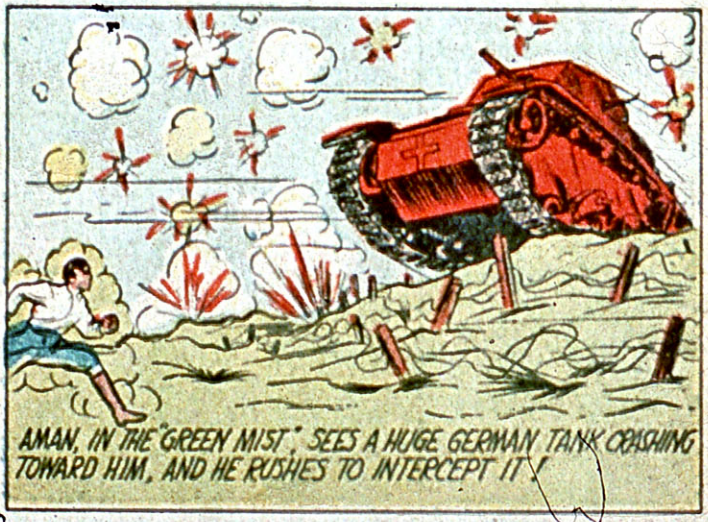

BUT THEY DIDN'T KNOW THE "GREEN MIST"! AMAN, INVISIBLE, LEAPS FROM THE ROOF AND ESCAPES~
DODGING THE NAZIS WAS EASY~ NOW WE FIND HIM PERCHED ON AN ARMORED CAR
SUDDENLY THE ATTACK BEGINS! AMAN TOPPLES TO THE GROUND~
RISING, UNHURT, HE RACES ACROSS THE BLOODY TERRAIN, HEADING FOR THE FRENCH LINES!
MIRACULOUSLY HE MAKES IT, AND DIVES INTO A DUGOUT
HE BECOMES VISIBLE~
QUICK! GIVE ME A UNIFORM AND A RIFLE ~I CAN HELP YOU!
FIFTEEN MINUTES LATER, CLAD IN THE UNIFORM OF THE FRENCH ARMY, THE "AMAZING-MAN" GOES OVER THE TOP!
AS HE CROUCHES IN A MACHINE-GUN PIT, HE SEES A GIANT SHELL SCREAMING TOWARD HIM
THIS IS ONE BABY WHOSE PLANS HAVE BEEN CHANGED!
FASTER THAN LIGHTNING, HE LEAPS TO CATCH IT!
8


WITH A RESOUNDING THUD AMAN SMACKS BACK TO EARTH WITH THE DEADLY MISSILE!

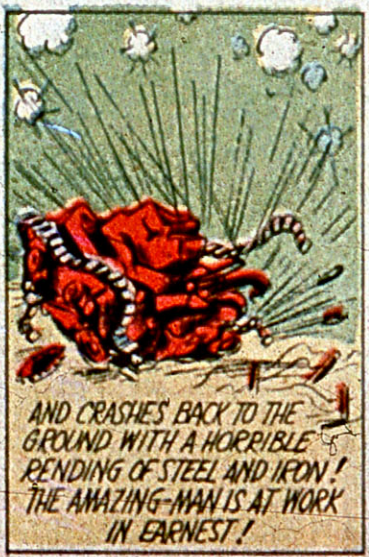

C'EST IMPOSSIBLE! JE SUIS ZIG-ZIG!
VERITÉ! IL A INCRÉDIBILE!


WATCH, NOW~WE'LL SEND THIS BABY RIGHT BACK HOME!
MON DIEU! REGARDEZ, PIERRE!


AND THAT'S NOT ALL, MY FRIENDS! I CAN'T WIN THIS WAR MYSELF, BUT I INTEND TO HAVE SOME MORE FUN WITH IT. I'M GOING TO DISAPPEAR NOW, BUT WATCH WHAT HAPPENS!


AMAN, IN THE "GREEN MIST," SEES A HUGE GERMAN TANK CRASHING TOWARD HIM, AND HE RUSHES TO INTERCEPT IT!

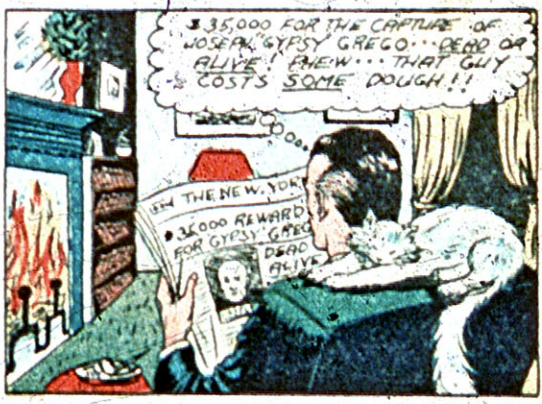

SUDDENLY IT SEEMS TO LEAP INTO THE AIR OF ITS OWN VOLITION!

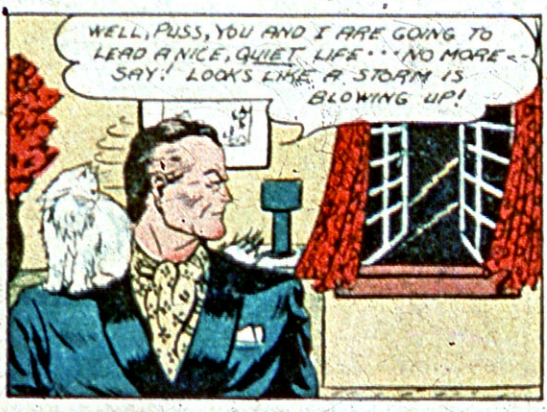

AND CRASHES BACK TO THE GROUND WITH A HORRIBLE RENDING OF STEEL AND IRON! THE AMAZING-MAN IS AT WORK IN EARNEST!

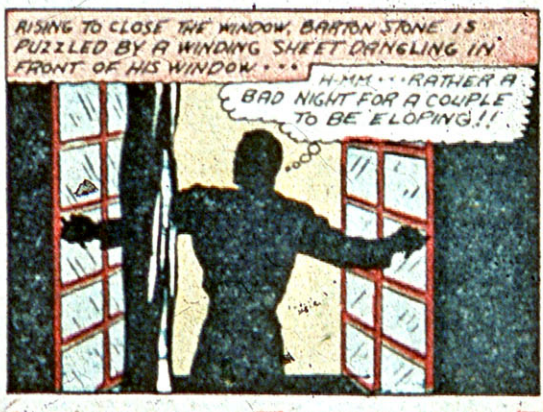

OVER THE BROW OF THE HILL HE RACES, STRAIGHT FOR THE ENEMY LINES!

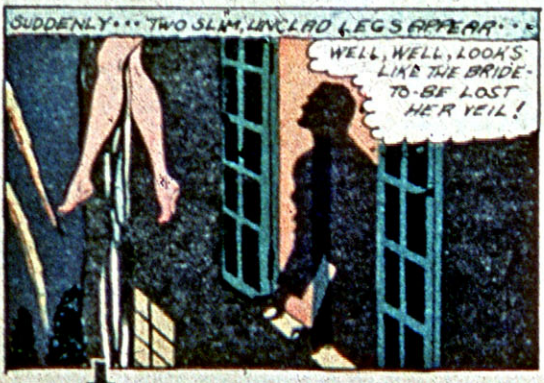

AND DOWN INTO THE VALLEY, WHERE A BATTERY OF GERMAN HOWITZERS HAMMERS SHELLS INTO THE FRENCH MAGINOT LINE
DONNERWETTER! A GREEN CLOUD! GAS!
IN A FRENZY TO DON THEIR MASKS, THE UNFORTUNATE NAZIS ARE THROWN OFF BALANCE AS THE MIGHTY HOWITZER WHIPS INTO THE AIR !!!
AND LIKE THE TANK, CRASHES TO THE GROUND, HOPELESSLY DEMOLISHED!
GOTT IN HIMMEL! WHAT IS HAPPENING? THERE IS NO SIGN OF THE ENEMY - YET OUR GUNS ARE BEING DESTROYED!
HELPLESS, THE ASTOUNDED SOLDIERS WATCH THEIR GUNS BEING WRECKED, ONE BY ONE!
THEN SUDDENLY, AS A NAZI PLANE APPROACHES, ONE OF THE GUNS SPINS ABOUT AND LETS LOOSE ITS CHARGE TOWARD ITS OWN BASE!
THE PLANE DIVES TO INVESTIGATE THE STRANGE DOINGS. AND AMAN, SEEKING FURTHER "FUN" WITH FRANCE'S ENEMY, LEAPS TO CATCH ITS FUSELAGE!
AND ABRUPTLY THE SHIP BANKS TO SPEED TOWARD THE CAPITOL!
LOOK! OUR PLANE! SHE GOES BACK TO THE HINTERLANDS! WHY DOES SHE NOT HELP US?
10.
AMAN HAS WORKED FAST! THE LITTLE BOMBER SPREADS DEATH AND DESTRUCTION ON ITS OWN "VATERLAND" - WITH AMAN AT THE CONTROLS!
THE DEAD PILOT BEHIND HIM, AMAN GRINS EVILLY WHILE BOMBING HIS WAY TO BERLIN!
WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO HIM NOW? SEE YOUR NEXT ISSUE - Amazing Man Comics


The Return OF THE CAT MAN
BY TARPE MILLS


$35,000 FOR THE CAPTURE OF JOSEPH "GYPSY" GREGO... DEAD OR ALIVE! PHEW... THAT GUY COSTS SOME DOUGH!!
THE NEW YORK
$35,000 REWARD FOR GYPSY GREGO
DEAD OR ALIVE

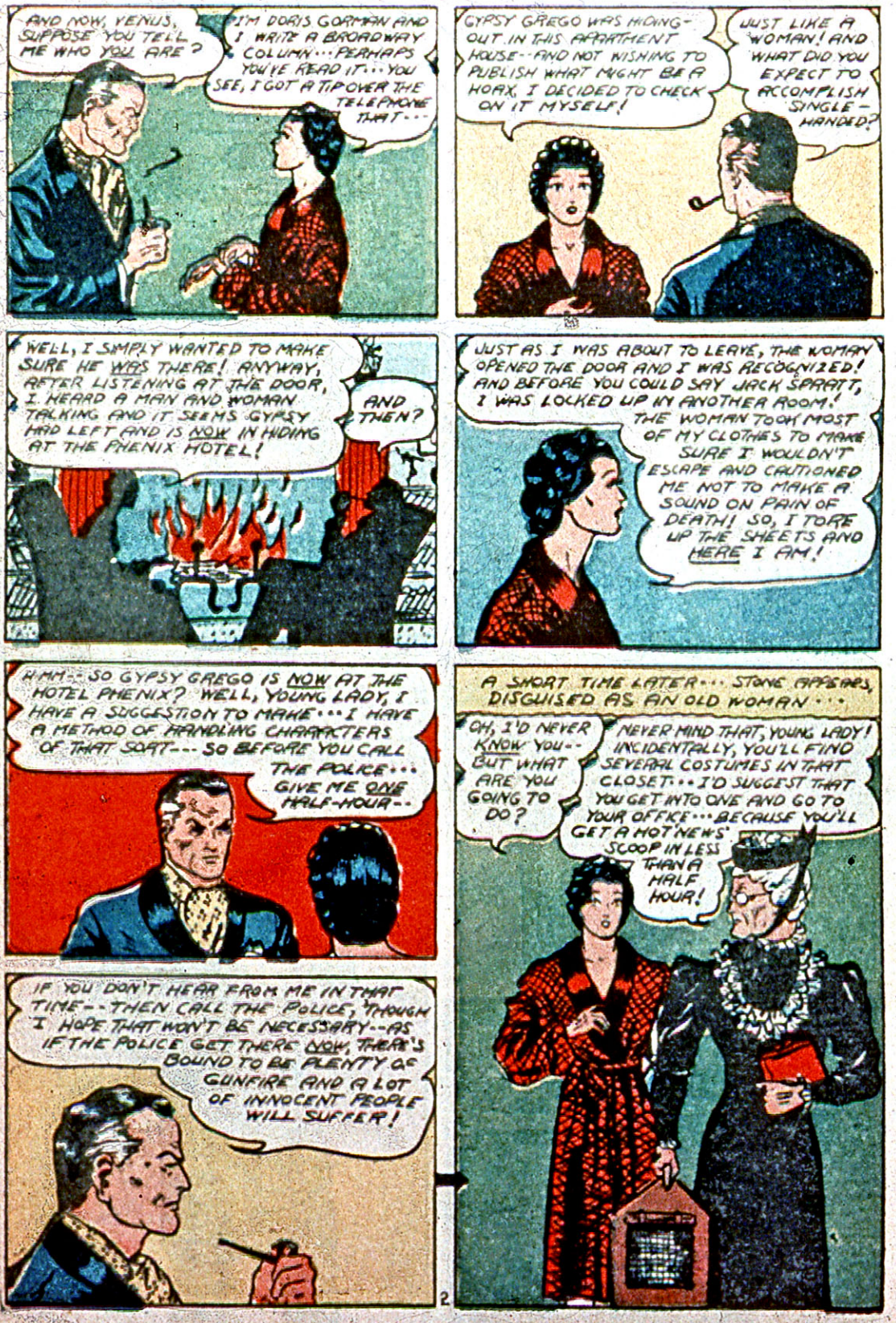

WELL, PUSS, YOU AND I ARE GOING TO LEAD A NICE, QUIET LIFE... NO MORE--SAY! LOOKS LIKE A STORM IS BLOWING UP!

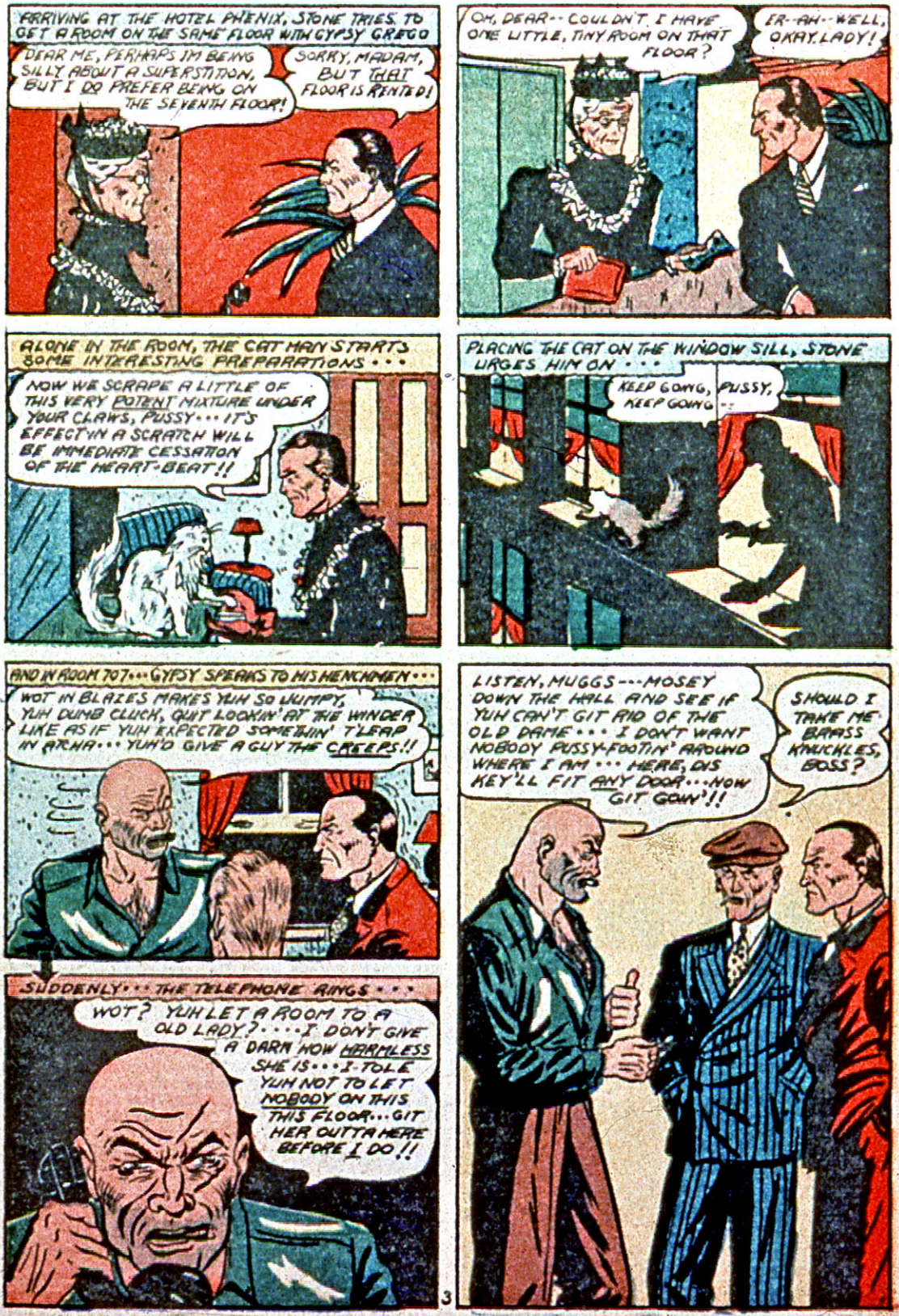

RISING TO CLOSE THE WINDOW, BARTON STONE IS PUZZLED BY A WINDING SHEET DANGLING IN FRONT OF HIS WINDOW...
H-MM... RATHER A BAD NIGHT FOR A COUPLE TO BE ELOPING!!


SUDDENLY... TWO SLIM, UNCLAD LEGS APPEAR...
WELL, WELL, LOOKS LIKE THE BRIDE-TO-BE LOST HER VEIL!

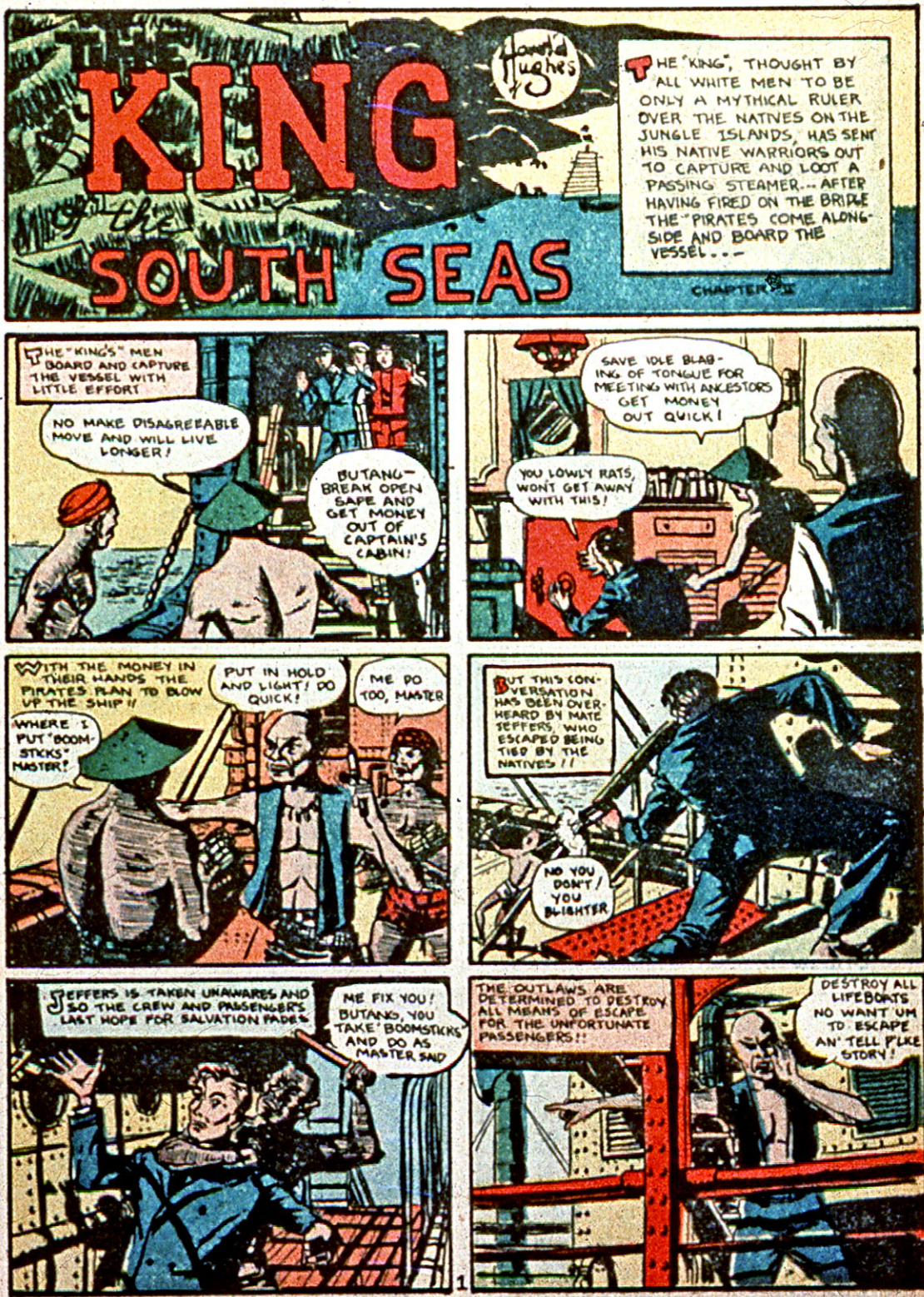

A SECOND LATER, STONE GRASPS THE SWAYING FIGURE...
HERE--HERE! YOUNG LADY, YOU CAN'T GO OUT ON A NIGHT LIKE THIS--DRESSED LIKE THAT!

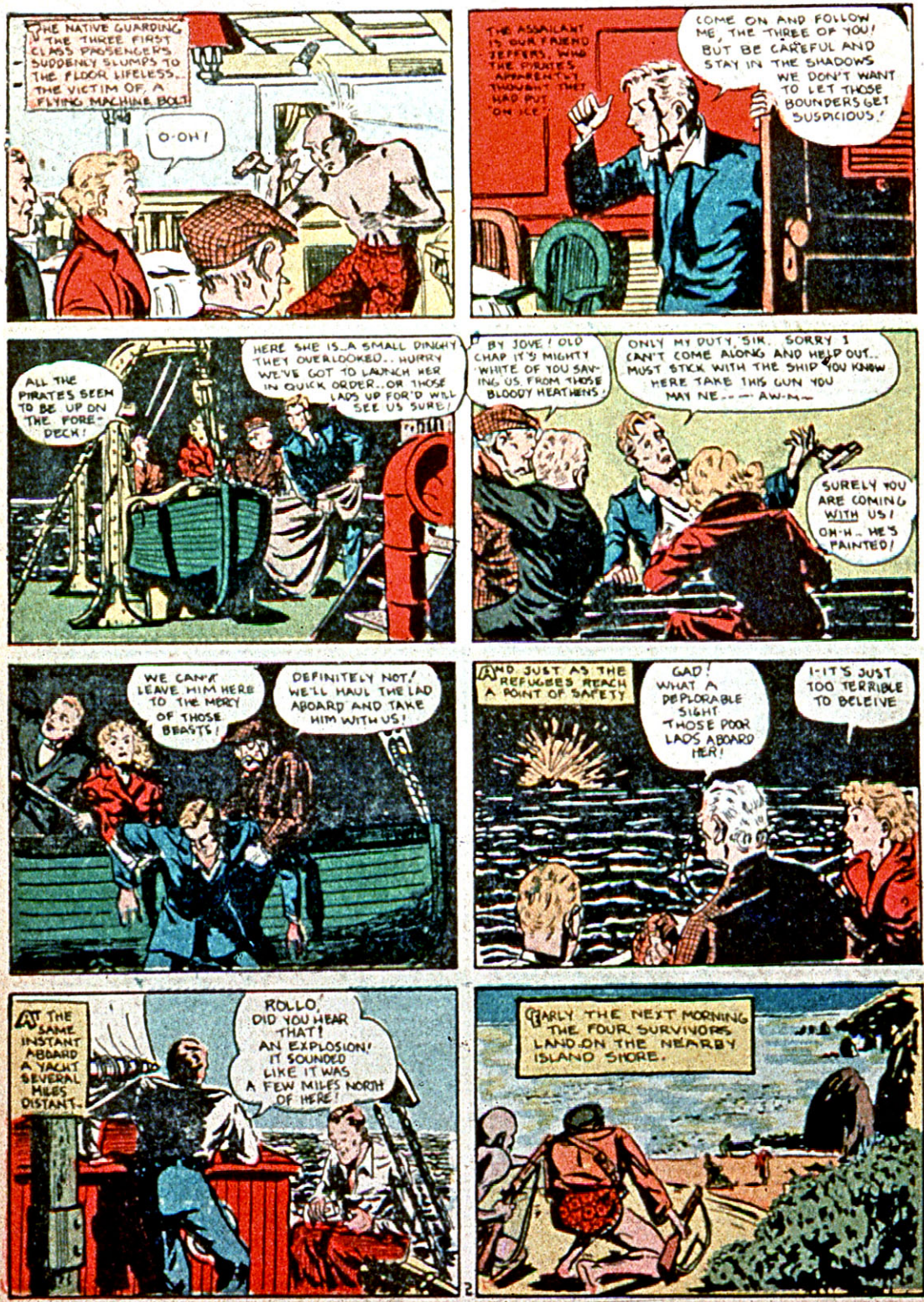

LET ME GO! LET ME GO! OH... WHO ARE YOU?
JUST A MINUTE, 'SEPTEMBER MORN', SUPPOSE I GET YOU A ROBE FIRST!

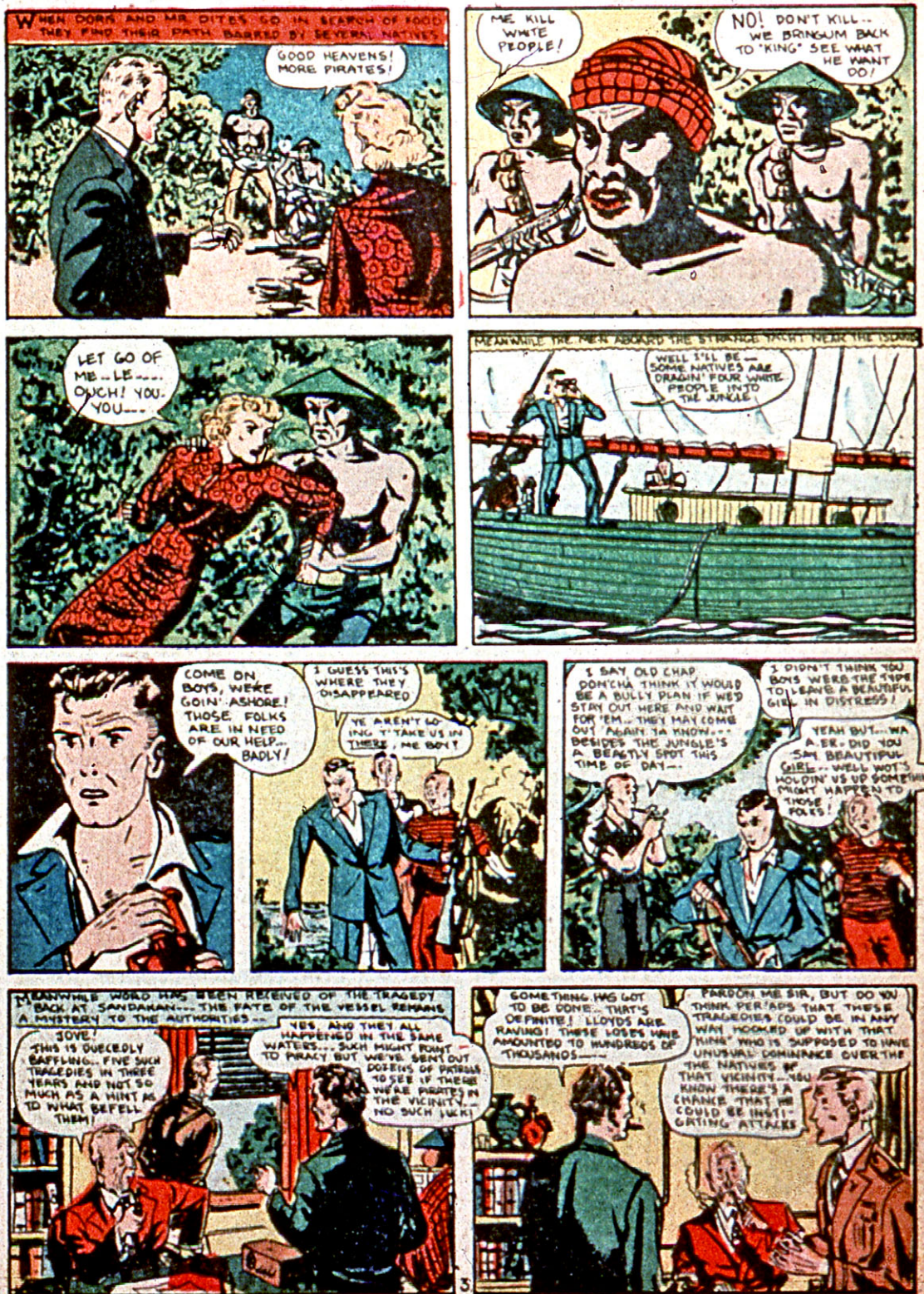

AND NOW, VENUS, SUPPOSE YOU TELL ME WHO YOU ARE?
I'M DORIS GORMAN AND I WRITE A BROADWAY COLUMN... PERHAPS YOU'VE READ IT... YOU SEE, I GOT A TIP OVER THE TELEPHONE THAT...
GYPSY GREGO WAS HIDING OUT IN THIS APARTMENT HOUSE--AND NOT WISHING TO PUBLISH WHAT MIGHT BE A HOAX, I DECIDED TO CHECK ON IT MYSELF!
JUST LIKE A WOMAN! AND WHAT DID YOU EXPECT TO ACCOMPLISH SINGLE-HANDED?
WELL, I SIMPLY WANTED TO MAKE SURE HE WAS THERE! ANYWAY, AFTER LISTENING AT THE DOOR, I HEARD A MAN AND WOMAN TALKING AND IT SEEMS GYPSY HAD LEFT AND IS NOW IN HIDING AT THE PHENIX HOTEL!
AND THEN?
JUST AS I WAS ABOUT TO LEAVE, THE WOMAN OPENED THE DOOR AND I WAS RECOGNIZED! AND BEFORE YOU COULD SAY JACK SPRATT, I WAS LOCKED UP IN ANOTHER ROOM! THE WOMAN TOOK MOST OF MY CLOTHES TO MAKE SURE I WOULDN'T ESCAPE AND CAUTIONED ME NOT TO MAKE A SOUND ON PAIN OF DEATH! SO, I TORE UP THE SHEETS AND HERE I AM!
HMM--SO GYPSY GREGO IS NOW AT THE HOTEL PHENIX? WELL, YOUNG LADY, I HAVE A SUGGESTION TO MAKE... I HAVE A METHOD OF HANDLING CHARACTERS OF THAT SORT--- SO BEFORE YOU CALL THE POLICE... GIVE ME ONE HALF-HOUR--
A SHORT TIME LATER... STONE APPEARS, DISGUISED AS AN OLD WOMAN...
OH, I'D NEVER KNOW YOU--BUT WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
NEVER MIND THAT, YOUNG LADY! INCIDENTALLY, YOU'LL FIND SEVERAL COSTUMES IN THAT CLOSET... I'D SUGGEST THAT YOU GET INTO ONE AND GO TO YOUR OFFICE... BECAUSE YOU'LL GET A HOT NEWS SCOOP IN LESS THAN A HALF HOUR!
IF YOU DON'T HEAR FROM ME IN THAT TIME--THEN CALL THE POLICE, THOUGH I HOPE THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY--AS IF THE POLICE GET THERE NOW, THERE'S BOUND TO BE PLENTY OF GUNFIRE AND A LOT OF INNOCENT PEOPLE WILL SUFFER!

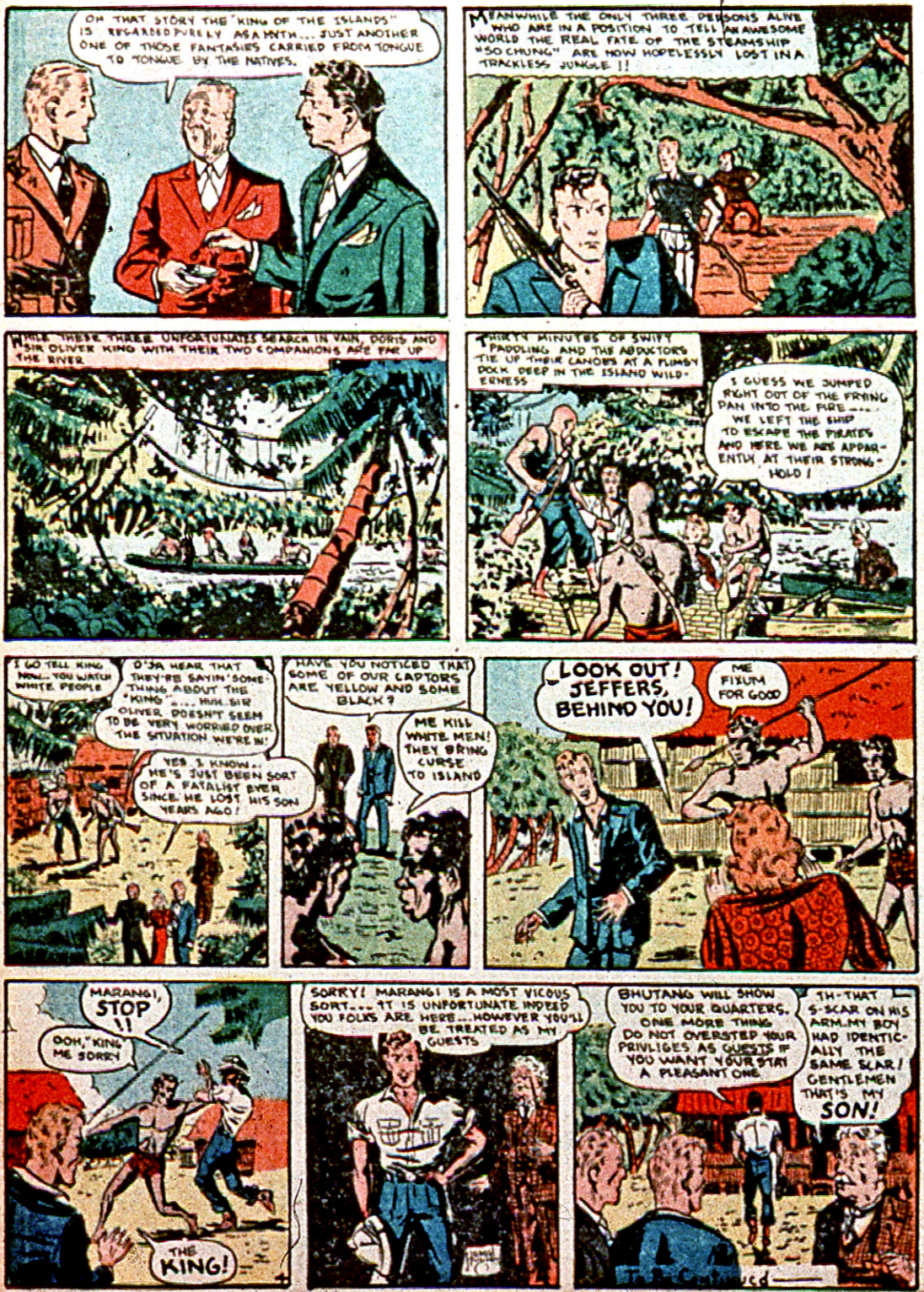

ARRIVING AT THE HOTEL PHENIX, STONE TRIES TO GET A ROOM ON THE SAME FLOOR WITH GYPSY GREGO
DEAR ME, PERHAPS IM BEING SILLY ABOUT A SUPERSTITION, BUT I DO PREFER BEING ON THE SEVENTH FLOOR!
SORRY, MADAM, BUT THAT FLOOR IS RENTED!
OH, DEAR-- COULDN'T I HAVE ONE LITTLE, TINY ROOM ON THAT FLOOR?
ER-AH--WELL, OKAY, LADY!
ALONE IN THE ROOM, THE CAT MAN STARTS SOME INTERESTING PREPARATIONS . . .
NOW WE SCRAPE A LITTLE OF THIS VERY POTENT MIXTURE UNDER YOUR CLAWS, PUSSY . . . IT'S EFFECT IN A SCRATCH WILL BE IMMEDIATE CESSATION OF THE HEART-BEAT!!
PLACING THE CAT ON THE WINDOW SILL, STONE URGES HIM ON . . .
KEEP GOING, PUSSY, KEEP GOING . .
AND IN ROOM 707 . . . GYPSY SPEAKS TO HIS HENCHMEN . . .
WOT IN BLAZES MAKES YUH SO JUMPY, YUH DUMB CLUCK, QUIT LOOKIN' AT THE WINDER LIKE AS IF YUH EXPECTED SOMETHIN' T'LEAP IN AR'HA . . . YUH'D GIVE A GUY THE CREEPS!!
LISTEN, MUGGS . . . MOSEY DOWN THE HALL AND SEE IF YUH CAN'T GIT RID OF THE OLD DAME . . . I DON'T WANT NOBODY PUSSY-FOOTIN' AROUND WHERE I AM . . . HERE, DIS KEY'LL FIT ANY DOOR . . . NOW GIT GOIN'!!
SHOULD I TAKE ME BRASS KNUCKLES, BOSS?
SUDDENLY . . . THE TELEPHONE RINGS . . .
WOT? YUH LET A ROOM TO A OLD LADY? . . . I DON'T GIVE A DARN HOW HARMLESS SHE IS . . . I TOLE YUH NOT TO LET NOBODY ON THIS THIS FLOOR . . . GIT HER OUTTA HERE BEFORE I DO!!

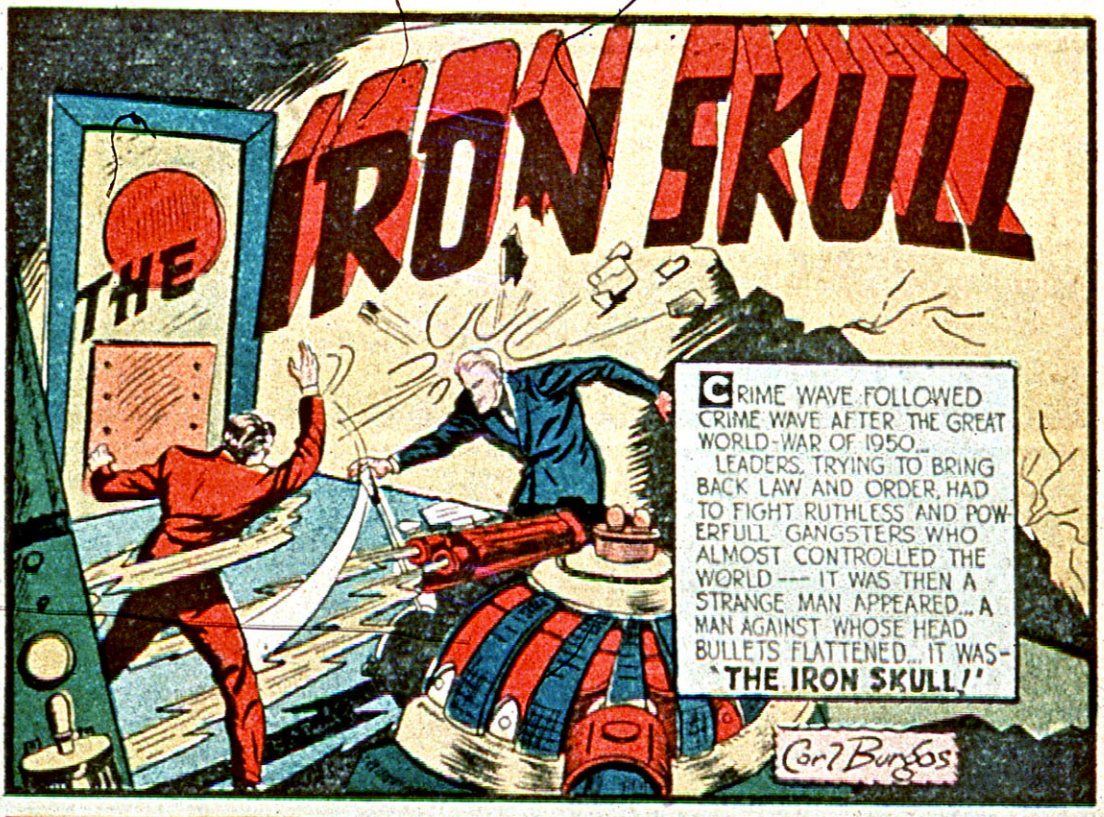

A FEW SECONDS LATER...
OWWWWW--- DEY GOT ME!! DEY GOT M---
MEANWHILE...WITH SILENT AUTOMATICS...
LOOK -IT'S A GUY... DRESSED LIKE A DAME!
QUICK---LET HIM HAVE IT!!
A BULLET-PROOF VEST SAVES THE CAT MAN AS HE DIVES FOR THE TWO THUGS...
GEE! ME BULLETS AIN'T EVEN KILLIN' HIM!!
AIM FOR HIS KISSER--HE'S GOT A VEST O---
THIS IS YOUR FINISH, WISE GUY!
AND AT THE SAME MOMENT...
NICE GOING, PUSS!
A SHORT TIME AFTER...
MERCY ME...I SHAN'T STAY IN THIS HOTEL ANOTHER MINUTE... SOME OF YOUR GUESTS ARE THE RUDEST PEOPLE!!
WELL, YOUNG LADY, GYPSY GREGO'S LIFE OF CRIME IS ENDED...YEH! HEART ATTACK I THINK... AWARD MONEY? NOT ME--THAT'S YOURS--THOUGH YOU CAN DO A FAVOR FOR ME...DON'T MENTION ME IN CONNECTION WITH THIS TRIAL... AND IF YOU EVER HAVE ANY DIFFICULTY IN THE FUTURE, DON'T FORGET TO CALL THE CAT MAN!
THE END


KING
of the
SOUTH SEAS
Harold Hughes
THE "KING", THOUGHT BY ALL WHITE MEN TO BE ONLY A MYTHICAL RULER OVER THE NATIVES ON THE JUNGLE ISLANDS, HAS SENT HIS NATIVE WARRIORS OUT TO CAPTURE AND LOOT A PASSING STEAMER.-- AFTER HAVING FIRED ON THE BRIDGE THE "PIRATES COME ALONG-SIDE AND BOARD THE VESSEL...
CHAPTER
THE "KING'S" MEN BOARD AND CAPTURE THE VESSEL WITH LITTLE EFFORT
NO MAKE DISAGREEABLE MOVE AND WILL LIVE LONGER!
BUTANG— BREAK OPEN SAFE AND GET MONEY OUT OF CAPTAIN'S CABIN!
SAVE IDLE BLAB-ING OF TONGUE FOR MEETING WITH ANCESTORS GET MONEY OUT QUICK!
YOU LOWLY RATS, WONT GET AWAY WITH THIS!
WITH THE MONEY IN THEIR HANDS THE PIRATES PLAN TO BLOW UP THE SHIP!!
PUT IN HOLD AND LIGHT! DO QUICK!
ME DO TOO, MASTER
WHERE I PUT "BOOM-STICKS" MASTER!
BUT THIS CON-VERSATION HAS BEEN OVER-HEARD BY MATE JEFFERS, WHO ESCAPED BEING TIED BY THE NATIVES!!
NO YOU DON'T / YOU BLIGHTER
JEFFERS IS TAKEN UNAWARES AND SO THE CREW AND PASSENGERS LAST HOPE FOR SALVATION FADES
ME FIX YOU! BUTANG, YOU TAKE "BOOMSTICKS" AND DO AS MASTER SAID
THE OUTLAWS ARE DETERMINED TO DESTROY ALL MEANS OF ESCAPE FOR THE UNFORTUNATE PASSENGERS!!
DESTROY ALL LIFEBOATS NO WANT UM TO ESCAPE AN' TELL FLKE STORY!


THE NATIVE GUARDING THE THREE FIRST CLASS PASSENGERS SUDDENLY SLUMPS TO THE FLOOR LIFELESS.. THE VICTIM OF A FLYING MACHINE BOLT
O-OH!
THE ASSAILANT IS OUR FRIEND JEFFERS, WHO THE PIRATES APPARENTLY THOUGHT THEY HAD PUT ON ICE!
COME ON AND FOLLOW ME, THE THREE OF YOU! BUT BE CAREFUL AND STAY IN THE SHADOWS WE DON'T WANT TO LET THOSE BOUNDERS GET SUSPICIOUS!
ALL THE PIRATES SEEM TO BE UP ON THE FORE-DECK!
HERE SHE IS..A SMALL DINGHY THEY OVERLOOKED.. HURRY WE'VE GOT TO LAUNCH HER IN QUICK ORDER..OR THOSE LADS UP FOR'D WILL SEE US SURE!
BY JOVE! OLD CHAP IT'S MIGHTY WHITE OF YOU SAVING US FROM THOSE BLOODY HEATHENS!
ONLY MY DUTY, SIR. SORRY I CAN'T COME ALONG AND HELP OUT.. MUST STICK WITH THE SHIP YOU KNOW HERE TAKE THIS GUN YOU MAY NE---- AW-M--
SURELY YOU ARE COMING WITH US! OH-H.. HE'S FAINTED!
WE CAN'T LEAVE HIM HERE TO THE MERCY OF THOSE BEASTS!
DEFINITELY NOT! WE'LL HAUL THE LAD ABOARD AND TAKE HIM WITH US!
AND JUST AS THE REFUGEES REACH A POINT OF SAFETY
GAD! WHAT A DEPLORABLE SIGHT THOSE POOR LADS ABOARD HER!
I-IT'S JUST TOO TERRIBLE TO BELEIVE
AT THE SAME INSTANT ABOARD A YACHT SEVERAL MILES DISTANT-
ROLLO, DID YOU HEAR THAT! AN EXPLOSION! IT SOUNDED LIKE IT WAS A FEW MILES NORTH OF HERE!
EARLY THE NEXT MORNING THE FOUR SURVIVORS LAND ON THE NEARBY ISLAND SHORE.


WHEN DORA AND MR. DITES GO IN SEARCH OF FOOD THEY FIND THEIR PATH BARRED BY SEVERAL NATIVES
GOOD HEAVENS! MORE PIRATES!
ME KILL WHITE PEOPLE!
NO! DON'T KILL-- WE BRINGUM BACK TO 'KING' SEE WHAT HE WANT DO!
LET GO OF ME--LE---- OUCH! YOU-- YOU---
MEANWHILE THE MEN ABOARD THE STRANGE YACHT NEAR THE ISLAND
WELL I'LL BE--- SOME NATIVES ARE DRAGIN' FOUR WHITE PEOPLE INTO THE JUNGLE!
COME ON, BOYS, WE'RE GOIN' ASHORE! THOSE FOLKS ARE IN NEED OF OUR HELP... BADLY!
I GUESS THIS'S WHERE THEY DISAPPEARED
YE AREN'T GOING T' TAKE US IN THERE, ME BOY?
I SAY OLD CHAP DON'CHA THINK IT WOULD BE A BULLY PLAN IF WE'D STAY OUT HERE AND WAIT FOR 'EM-- THEY MAY COME OUT AGAIN YA KNOW--- BESIDES THE JUNGLE'S A BEASTLY SPOT THIS TIME OF DAY---
I DIDN'T THINK YOU BOYS WERE THE TYPE TO LEAVE A BEAUTIFUL GIRL IN DISTRESS!
YEAH BUT--WA A-ER-DID YOU SAY BEAUTIFUL GIRL-- WELL WOT'S HOLDIN' US UP SOMETHIN' MIGHT HAPPEN TO THOSE FOLKS!
MEANWHILE WORD HAS BEEN RECEIVED OF THE TRAGEDY BACK AT SANDAHAN--- THE FATE OF THE VESSEL REMAINS A MYSTERY TO THE AUTHORITIES---
JOVE! THIS IS DUECEDLY BAFFLING... FIVE SUCH TRAGEDIES IN THREE YEARS AND NOT SO MUCH AS A HINT AS TO WHAT BEFELL THEM!
YES, AND THEY ALL HAPPENED IN THE SAME WATERS... SUCH MIGHT POINT TO PIRACY BUT WE'VE SENT OUT DOZENS OF PATROLS TO SEE IF THERE WERE PIRATES IN THE VICINITY--- NO SUCH LUCK!
SOMETHING HAS GOT TO BE DONE--THAT'S DEFINITE! LLOYDS ARE RAVING! THESE LOSES NOW AMOUNTED TO HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS----
PARDON ME SIR, BUT DO YOU THINK PERHAPS THAT THESE TRAGEDIES COULD BE IN ANY WAY HOOKED UP WITH THAT 'KING' WHO IS SUPPOSED TO HAVE UNUSUAL DOMINANCE OVER THE NATIVES OF THAT VICINITY--YOU KNOW THERE'S A CHANCE THAT HE COULD BE INSTIGATING ATTACKS
3

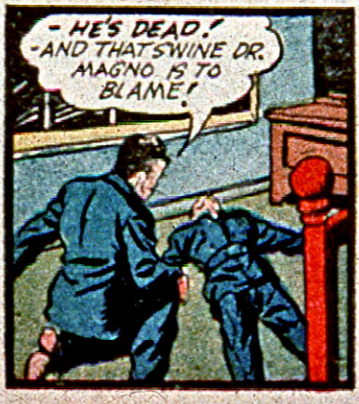

OH THAT STORY THE "KING OF THE ISLANDS" IS REGARDED PURELY AS A MYTH... JUST ANOTHER ONE OF THOSE FANTASIES CARRIED FROM TONGUE TO TONGUE BY THE NATIVES.
MEANWHILE THE ONLY THREE PERSONS ALIVE WHO ARE IN A POSITION TO TELL AN AWESOME WORLD THE REAL FATE OF THE STEAMSHIP "SO CHUNG" ARE NOW HOPELESSLY LOST IN A TRACKLESS JUNGLE !!
WHILE THESE THREE UNFORTUNATES SEARCH IN VAIN, DORIS AND SIR OLIVER KING WITH THEIR TWO COMPANIONS ARE FAR UP THE RIVER
THIRTY MINUTES OF SWIFT PADDLING AND THE ABDUCTORS TIE UP THEIR CANOES AT A FLIMSY DOCK DEEP IN THE ISLAND WILDERNESS
I GUESS WE JUMPED RIGHT OUT OF THE FRYING PAN INTO THE FIRE.... WE LEFT THE SHIP TO ESCAPE THE PIRATES AND HERE WE ARE APPARENTLY AT THEIR STRONG-HOLD !
I GO TELL KING NOW... YOU WATCH WHITE PEOPLE
O'SA HEAR THAT THEY'RE SAYIN' SOMETHING ABOUT THE "KING"... HMM. SIR OLIVER DOESN'T SEEM TO BE VERY WORRIED OVER THE SITUATION WE'RE IN!
YES, I KNOW... HE'S JUST BEEN SORT OF A FATALIST EVER SINCE HE LOST HIS SON YEARS AGO!
HAVE YOU NOTICED THAT SOME OF OUR CAPTORS ARE YELLOW AND SOME BLACK?
ME KILL WHITE MEN! THEY BRING CURSE TO ISLAND
LOOK OUT! JEFFERS, BEHIND YOU!
ME FIXUM FOR GOOD
MARANGI, STOP !!
OOH, KING ME SORRY
THE KING!
SORRY! MARANGI IS A MOST VICIOUS SORT... IT IS UNFORTUNATE INDEED YOU FOLKS ARE HERE... HOWEVER YOU'LL BE TREATED AS MY GUESTS
BHUTANG WILL SHOW YOU TO YOUR QUARTERS. ONE MORE THING DO NOT OVERSTEP YOUR PRIVILIGES AS GUESTS IF YOU WANT YOUR STAY A PLEASANT ONE
TH-THAT S-SCAR ON HIS ARM... MY BOY HAD IDENTICALLY THE SAME SCAR! GENTLEMEN THAT'S MY SON!
To Be Continued

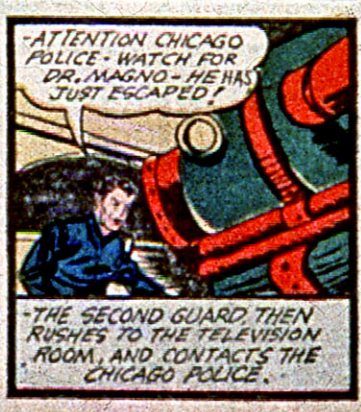

THE IRON SKULL
CRIME WAVE FOLLOWED CRIME WAVE AFTER THE GREAT WORLD-WAR OF 1950... LEADERS, TRYING TO BRING BACK LAW AND ORDER, HAD TO FIGHT RUTHLESS AND POWERFULL GANGSTERS WHO ALMOST CONTROLLED THE WORLD --- IT WAS THEN A STRANGE MAN APPEARED... A MAN AGAINST WHOSE HEAD BULLETS FLATTENED... IT WAS- "THE IRON SKULL!"
Carl Burgos


AT THE CRIMINAL MENTAL INSTITUTE A BATTERED FIGURE MAKES HIS WAY DOWN THE HALL
HELP!-HELP! -HE'S ESCAPED!

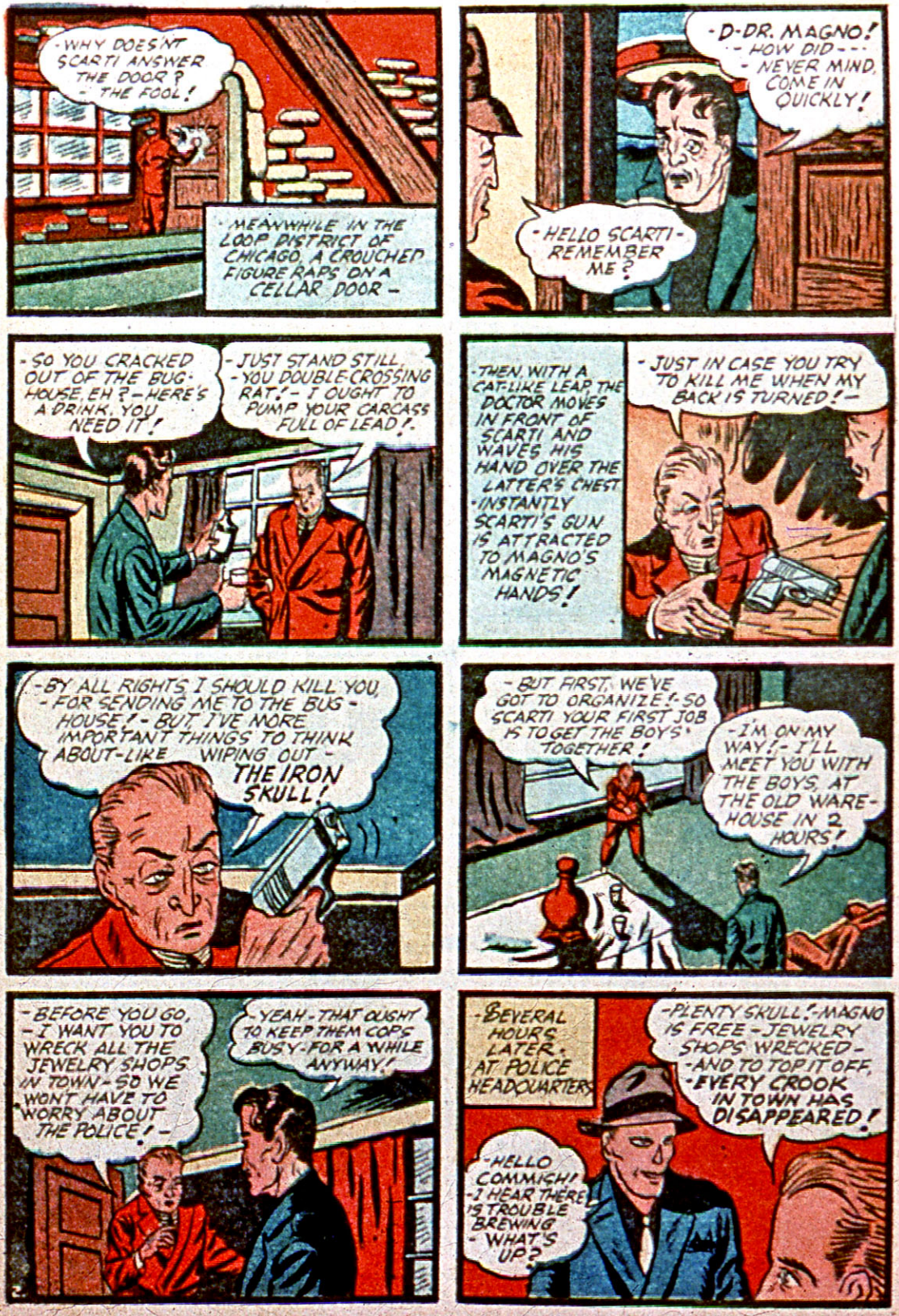

-WHAT ARE YOU YELLING ABOUT STEVE?
-DR. MAGNO ESCAPED!

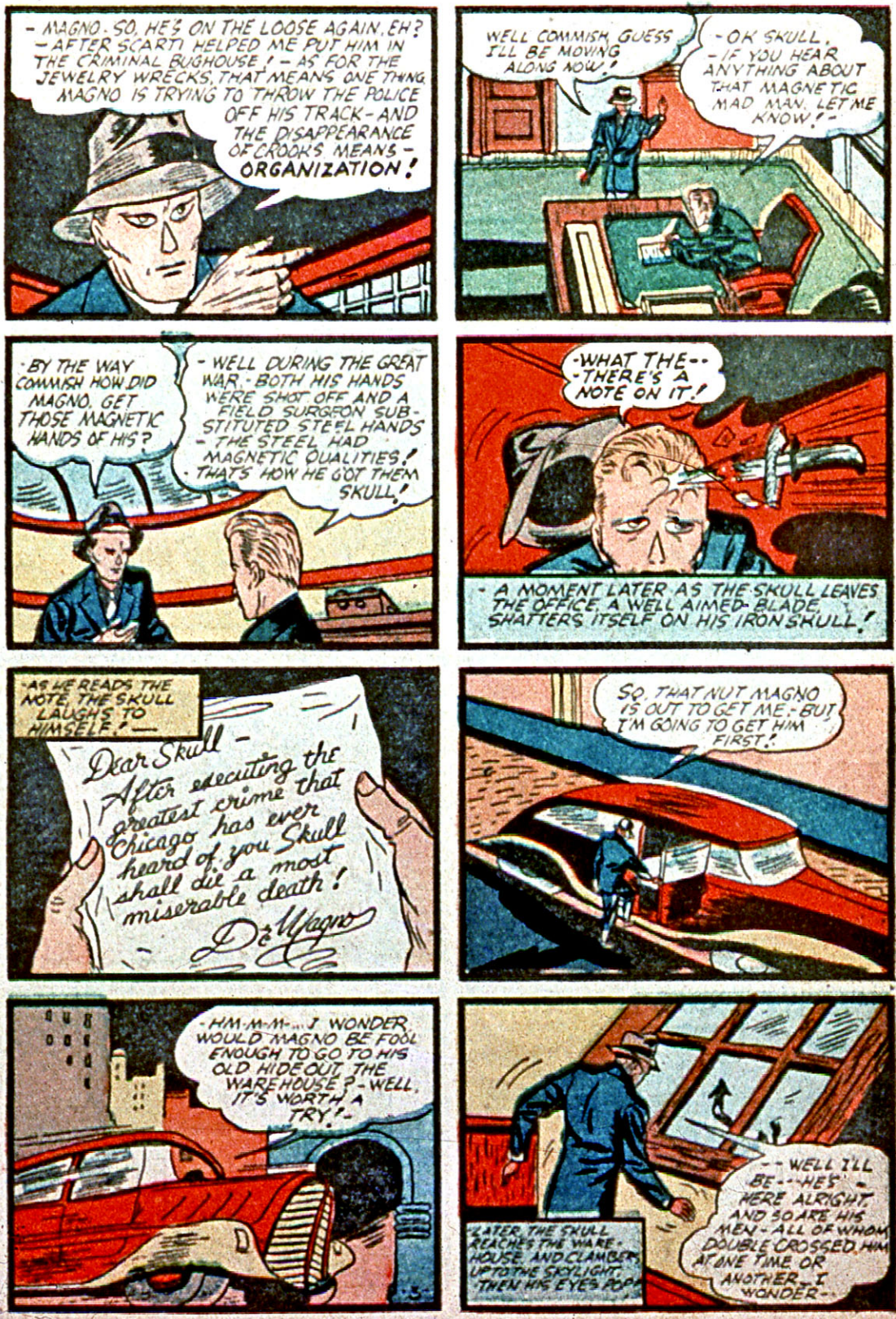

-MAGNO ESCAPED- -OH-H-H-
-THEN, LOSING CONSCIOUSNESS STEVE GOES SPRAWLING DOWN THE STEPS!-

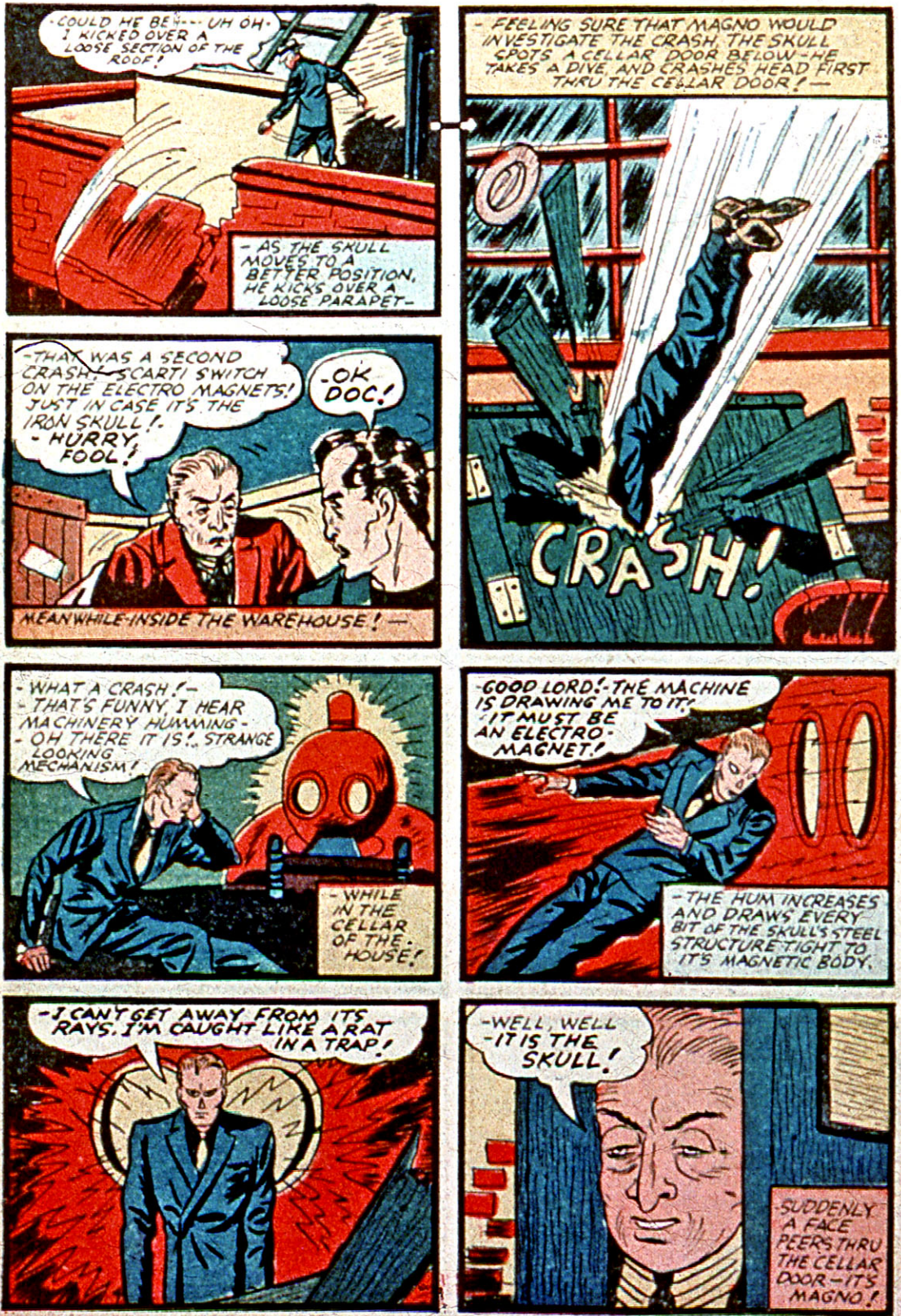

-HE'S DEAD! -AND THAT SWINE DR. MAGNO IS TO BLAME!

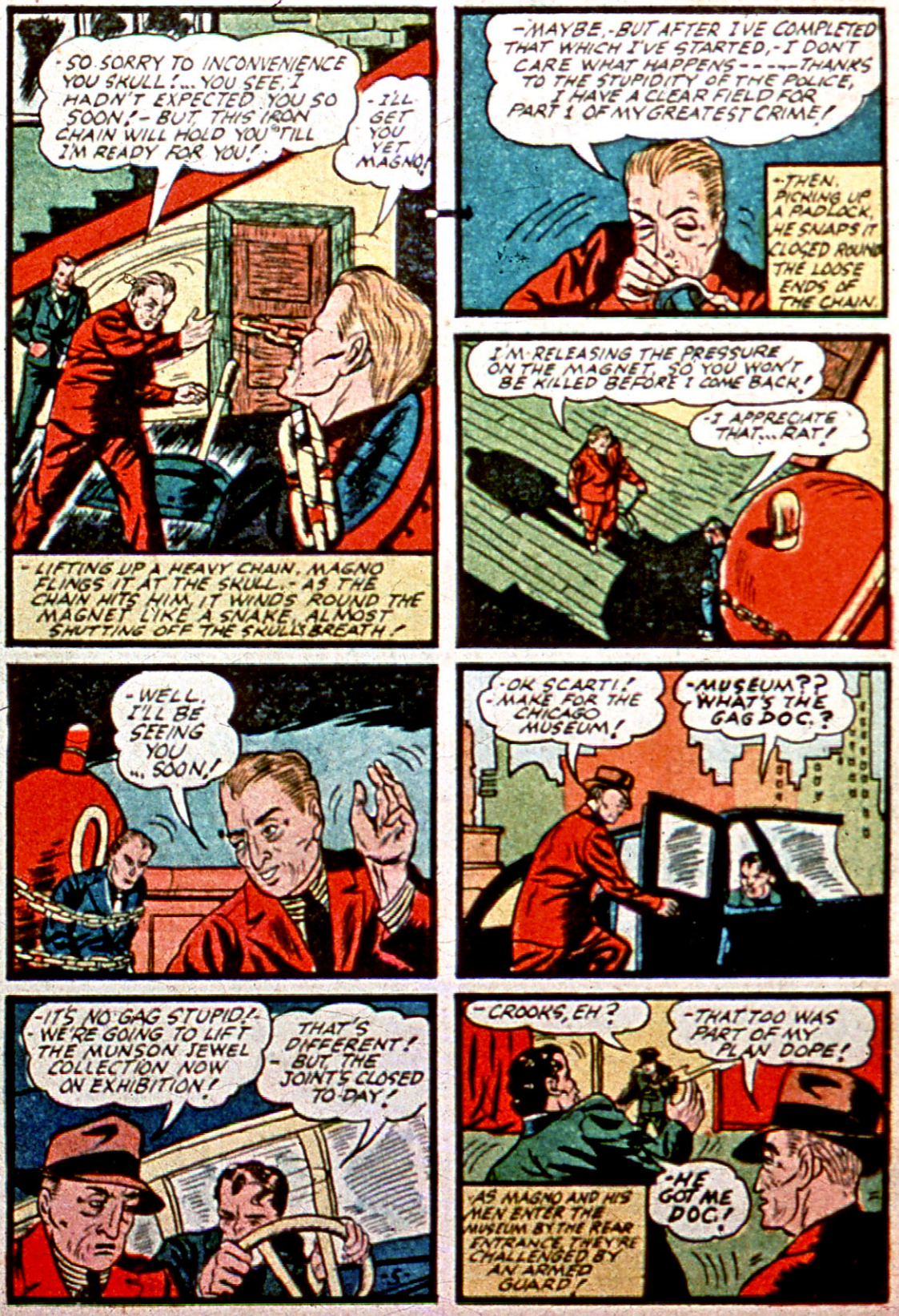

-ATTENTION CHICAGO POLICE- WATCH FOR DR. MAGNO- HE HAS JUST ESCAPED!
-THE SECOND GUARD THEN RUSHES TO THE TELEVISION ROOM, AND CONTACTS THE CHICAGO POLICE.

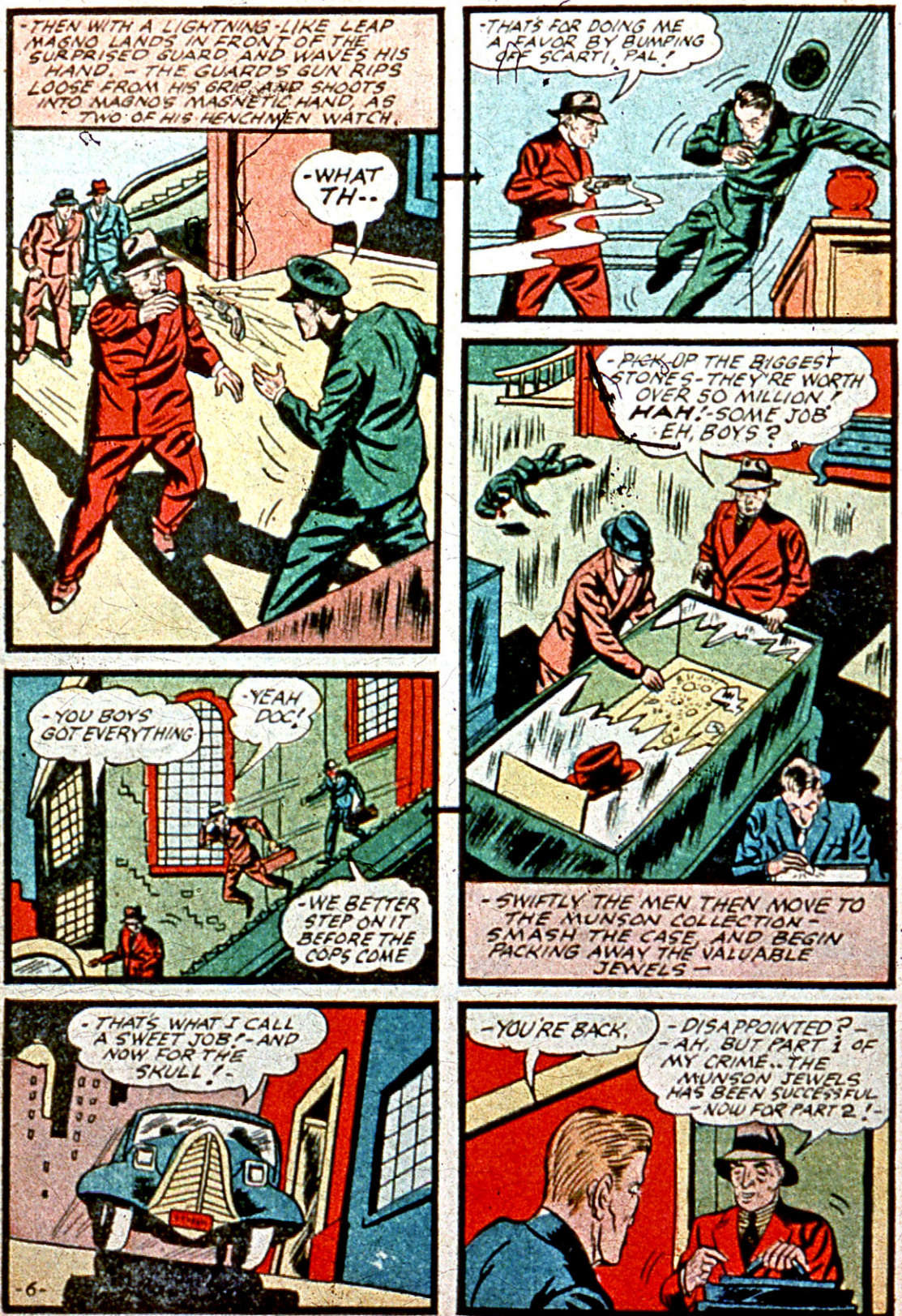

-WHAT?- DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE SAYING?- -THAT LUNATIC WILL REVIVE ORGANIZED CRIME!
-THE CALL IS PICKED UP BY THE POLICE COMMISSIONER-

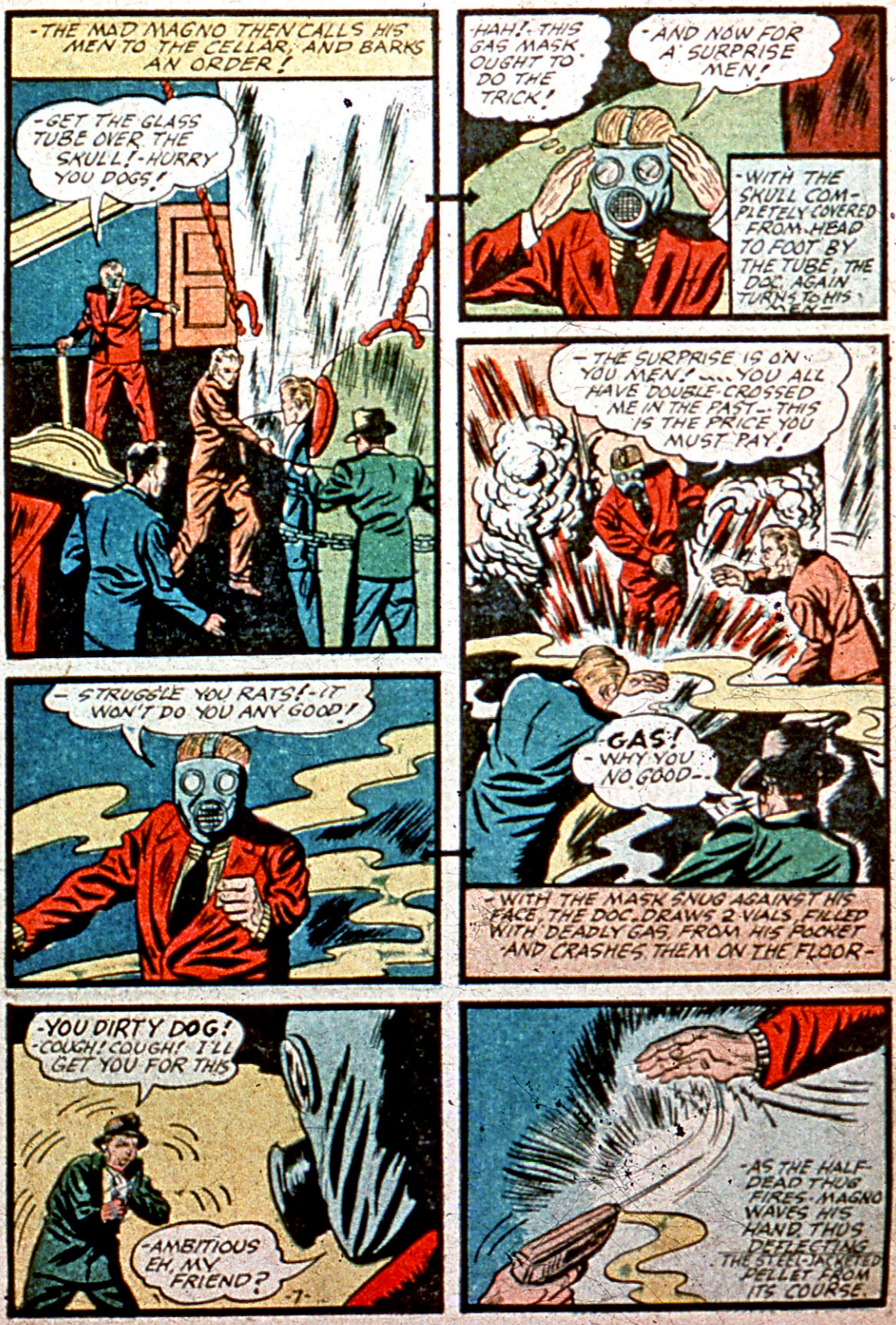

-WHY DOESN'T SCARTI ANSWER THE DOOR? - THE FOOL!
-MEANWHILE IN THE LOOP DISTRICT OF CHICAGO, A CROUCHED FIGURE RAPS ON A CELLAR DOOR -
-D-DR. MAGNO! - HOW DID - - - - NEVER MIND, COME IN QUICKLY!
-HELLO SCARTI - REMEMBER ME?
-SO YOU CRACKED OUT OF THE BUG-HOUSE, EH? - HERE'S A DRINK, YOU NEED IT!
-JUST STAND STILL, - YOU DOUBLE-CROSSING RAT! - I OUGHT TO PUMP YOUR CARCASS FULL OF LEAD!
-THEN, WITH A CAT-LIKE LEAP, THE DOCTOR MOVES IN FRONT OF SCARTI AND WAVES HIS HAND OVER THE LATTER'S CHEST. -INSTANTLY SCARTI'S GUN IS ATTRACTED TO MAGNO'S MAGNETIC HANDS!
- JUST IN CASE YOU TRY TO KILL ME WHEN MY BACK IS TURNED! -
-BY ALL RIGHTS I SHOULD KILL YOU, - FOR SENDING ME TO THE BUG-HOUSE! - BUT I'VE MORE IMPORTANT THINGS TO THINK ABOUT - LIKE WIPING OUT - THE IRON SKULL!
- BUT FIRST, WE'VE GOT TO ORGANIZE! - SO SCARTI YOUR FIRST JOB IS TO GET THE BOYS TOGETHER!
-I'M ON MY WAY! - I'LL MEET YOU WITH THE BOYS, AT THE OLD WARE-HOUSE IN 2 HOURS!
- BEFORE YOU GO, - I WANT YOU TO WRECK ALL THE JEWELRY SHOPS IN TOWN - SO WE WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THE POLICE! -
-YEAH - THAT OUGHT TO KEEP THEM COPS BUSY - FOR A WHILE ANYWAY!
-SEVERAL HOURS LATER, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS
-PLENTY SKULL! - MAGNO IS FREE - JEWELRY SHOPS WRECKED - AND TO TOP IT OFF, - EVERY CROOK IN TOWN HAS DISAPPEARED!
-HELLO COMMISH! - I HEAR THERE IS TROUBLE BREWING - WHAT'S UP?

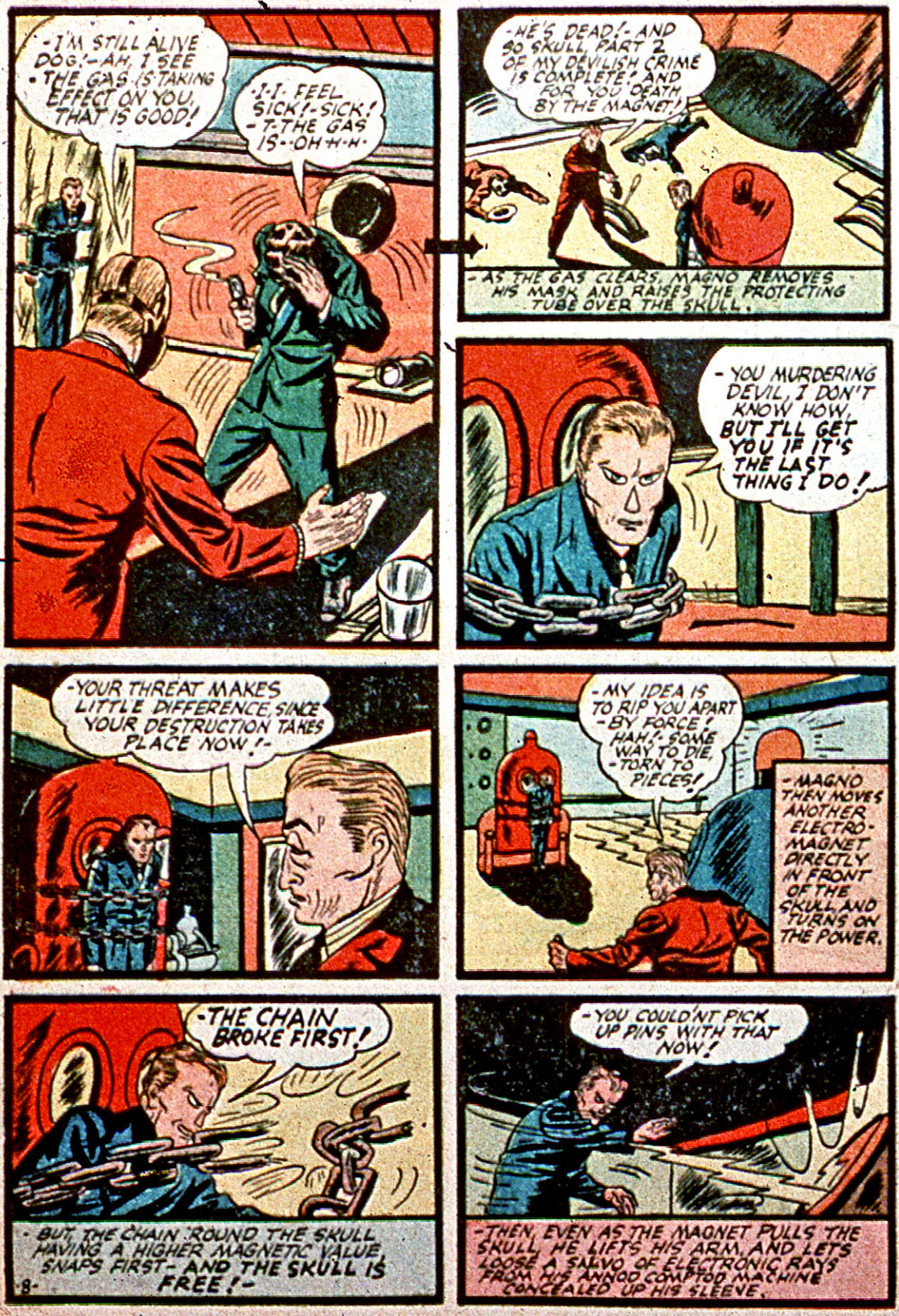

- MAGNO - SO, HE'S ON THE LOOSE AGAIN, EH? - AFTER SCARTI HELPED ME PUT HIM IN THE CRIMINAL BUGHOUSE! - AS FOR THE JEWELRY WRECKS, THAT MEANS ONE THING. MAGNO IS TRYING TO THROW THE POLICE OFF HIS TRACK - AND THE DISAPPEARANCE OF CROOK'S MEANS - ORGANIZATION!
WELL COMMISH, GUESS I'LL BE MOVING ALONG NOW!
- OK SKULL. - IF YOU HEAR ANYTHING ABOUT THAT MAGNETIC MAD MAN, LET ME KNOW! -
- BY THE WAY COMMISH HOW DID MAGNO, GET THOSE MAGNETIC HANDS OF HIS?
- WELL DURING THE GREAT WAR - BOTH HIS HANDS WERE SHOT OFF AND A FIELD SURGEON SUBSTITUTED STEEL HANDS - THE STEEL HAD MAGNETIC QUALITIES! - THAT'S HOW HE GOT THEM SKULL!
- WHAT THE-- - THERE'S A NOTE ON IT!
- A MOMENT LATER AS THE SKULL LEAVES THE OFFICE, A WELL AIMED BLADE SHATTERS ITSELF ON HIS IRON SKULL!
- AS HE READS THE NOTE, THE SKULL LAUGHS TO HIMSELF! -
Dear Skull - After executing the greatest crime that Chicago has ever heard of, you Skull shall die a most miserable death! Dr. Magno
SO, THAT NUT MAGNO IS OUT TO GET ME - BUT I'M GOING TO GET HIM FIRST!
- HM-M-M-... I WONDER WOULD MAGNO BE FOOL ENOUGH TO GO TO HIS OLD HIDE OUT THE WAREHOUSE? - WELL, IT'S WORTH A TRY! -
- LATER, THE SKULL REACHES THE WAREHOUSE, AND CLAMBERS UP TO THE SKYLIGHT. THEN HIS EYES POP!
- - WELL I'LL BE - - HE'S - HERE ALRIGHT, AND SO ARE HIS MEN - ALL OF WHOM DOUBLE CROSSED HIM AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER - I WONDER - -

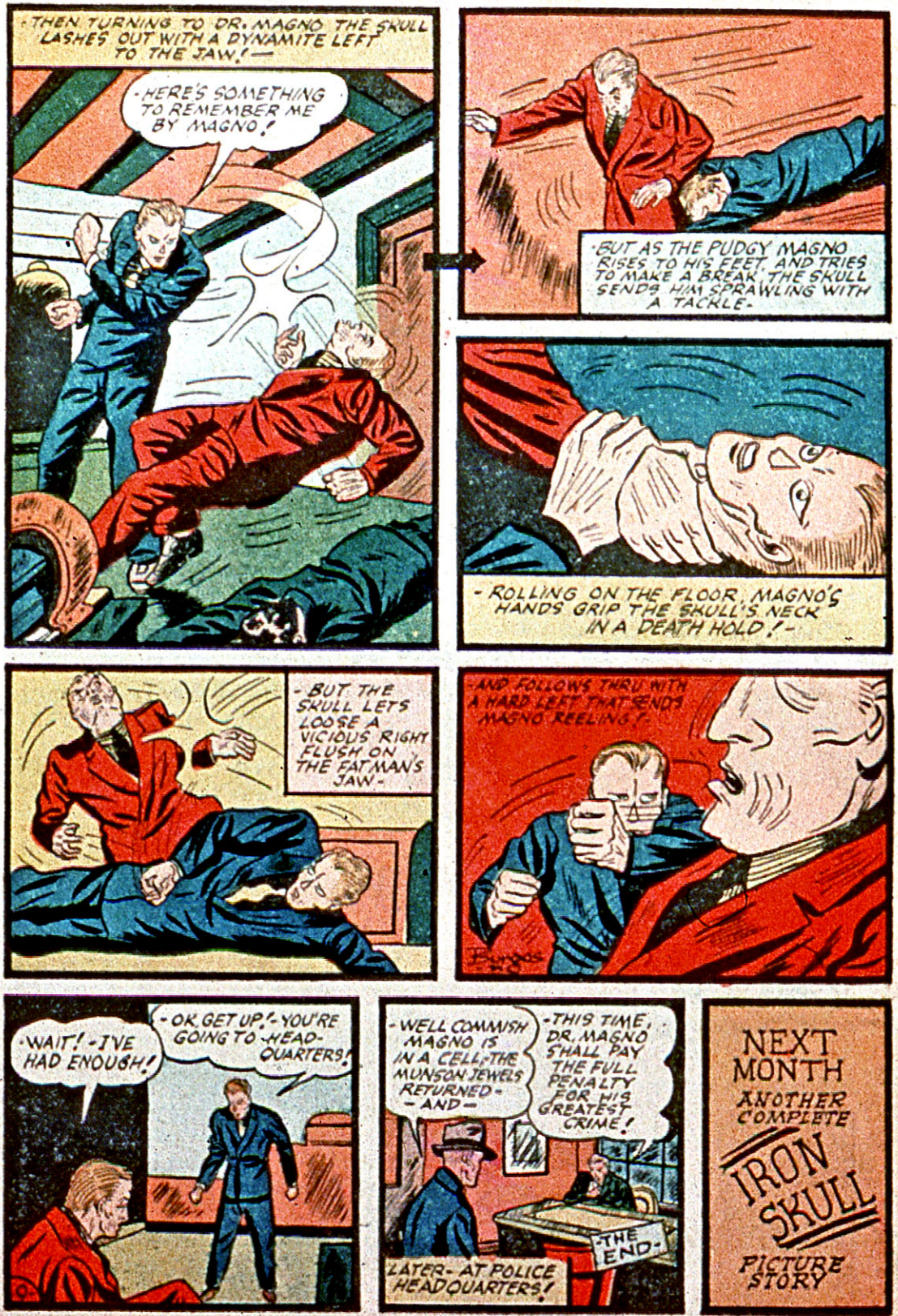

-COULD HE BE--- UH OH- I KICKED OVER A LOOSE SECTION OF THE ROOF!
- AS THE SKULL MOVES TO A BETTER POSITION, HE KICKS OVER A LOOSE PARAPET-
- FEELING SURE THAT MAGNO WOULD INVESTIGATE THE CRASH, THE SKULL SPOTS A CELLAR DOOR BELOW - HE TAKES A DIVE, AND CRASHES HEAD FIRST THRU THE CELLAR DOOR! —
CRASH!
-THAT WAS A SECOND CRASH! - SCARTI SWITCH ON THE ELECTRO MAGNETS! JUST IN CASE IT'S THE IRON SKULL! - HURRY, FOOL!
-OK DOC!
MEANWHILE-INSIDE THE WAREHOUSE! —
- WHAT A CRASH! - THAT'S FUNNY, I HEAR MACHINERY HUMMING - - OH THERE IT IS! - STRANGE LOOKING MECHANISM!
- WHILE IN THE CELLAR OF THE HOUSE!
-GOOD LORD! - THE MACHINE IS DRAWING ME TO IT! - IT MUST BE AN ELECTRO-MAGNET!
- THE HUM INCREASES AND DRAWS EVERY BIT OF THE SKULL'S STEEL STRUCTURE TIGHT TO IT'S MAGNETIC BODY.
- I CAN'T GET AWAY FROM ITS RAYS. I'M CAUGHT LIKE A RAT IN A TRAP!
-WELL, WELL - IT IS THE SKULL!
-SUDDENLY A FACE PEERS THRU THE CELLAR DOOR - IT'S MAGNO!

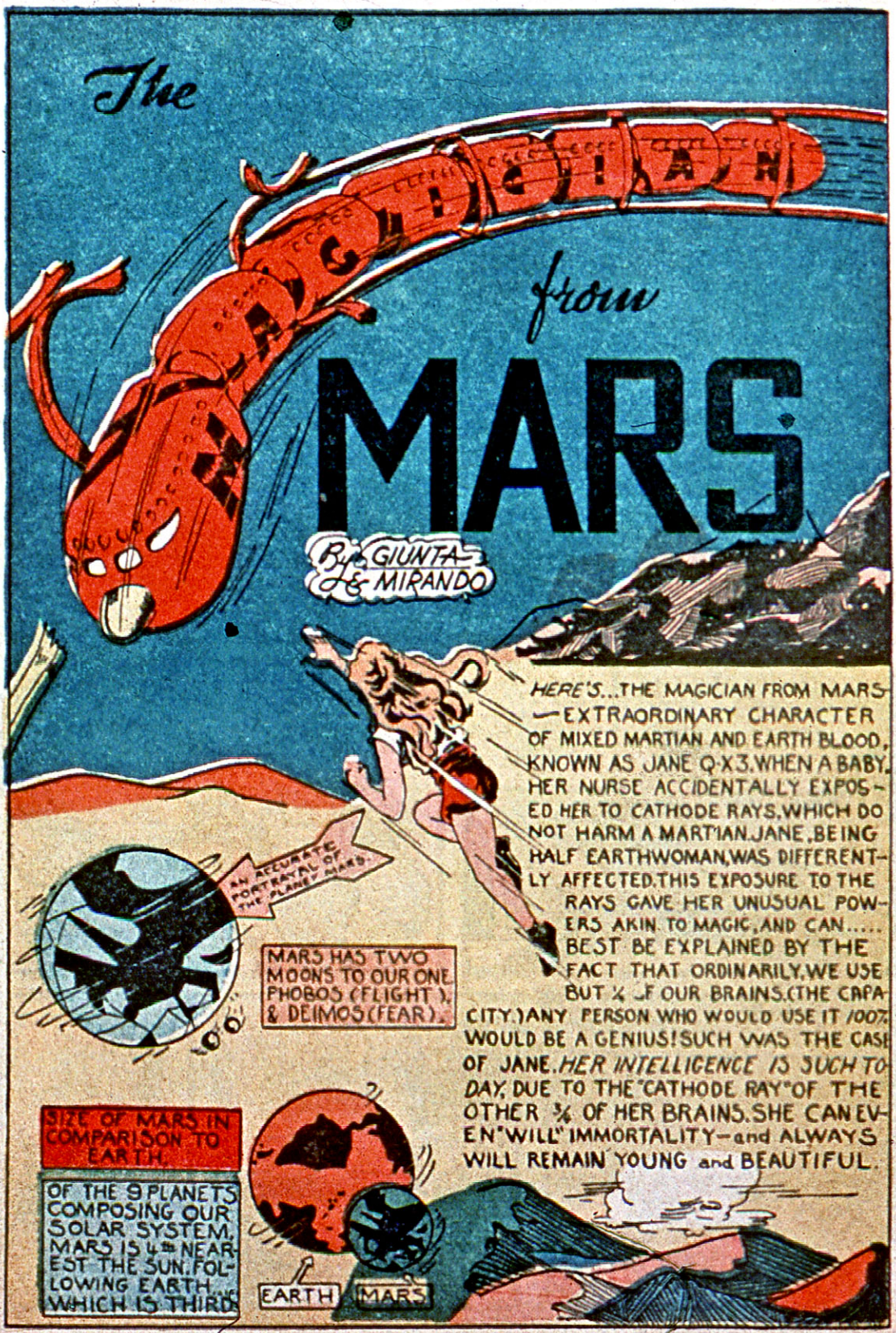

-SO SORRY TO INCONVENIENCE YOU SKULL!... YOU SEE, I HADN'T EXPECTED YOU SO SOON!- BUT THIS IRON CHAIN WILL HOLD YOU 'TILL I'M READY FOR YOU!
-I'LL GET YOU YET MAGNO!
-LIFTING UP A HEAVY CHAIN, MAGNO FLINGS IT AT THE SKULL.- AS THE CHAIN HITS HIM, IT WINDS ROUND THE MAGNET LIKE A SNAKE, ALMOST SHUTTING OFF THE SKULL'S BREATH!
-MAYBE,-BUT AFTER I'VE COMPLETED THAT WHICH I'VE STARTED,-I DON'T CARE WHAT HAPPENS-----THANKS TO THE STUPIDITY OF THE POLICE, I HAVE A CLEAR FIELD FOR PART 1 OF MY GREATEST CRIME!
-THEN, PICKING UP A PADLOCK, HE SNAPS IT CLOSED ROUND THE LOOSE ENDS OF THE CHAIN.
I'M RELEASING THE PRESSURE ON THE MAGNET, SO YOU WON'T BE KILLED BEFORE I COME BACK!
-I APPRECIATE THAT...RAT!
-WELL, I'LL BE SEEING YOU ... SOON!
-OK SCART!- MAKE FOR THE CHICAGO MUSEUM!
-MUSEUM?? WHAT'S THE GAG DOC.?
-IT'S NO GAG STUPID!- WE'RE GOING TO LIFT THE MUNSON JEWEL COLLECTION NOW ON EXHIBITION!
THAT'S DIFFERENT! -BUT THE JOINT'S CLOSED TO-DAY!
-CROOKS, EH?
-THAT TOO WAS PART OF MY PLAN DOPE!
AS MAGNO AND HIS MEN ENTER THE MUSEUM BY THE REAR ENTRANCE, THEY'RE CHALLENGED BY AN ARMED GUARD!
-HE GOT ME DOC!

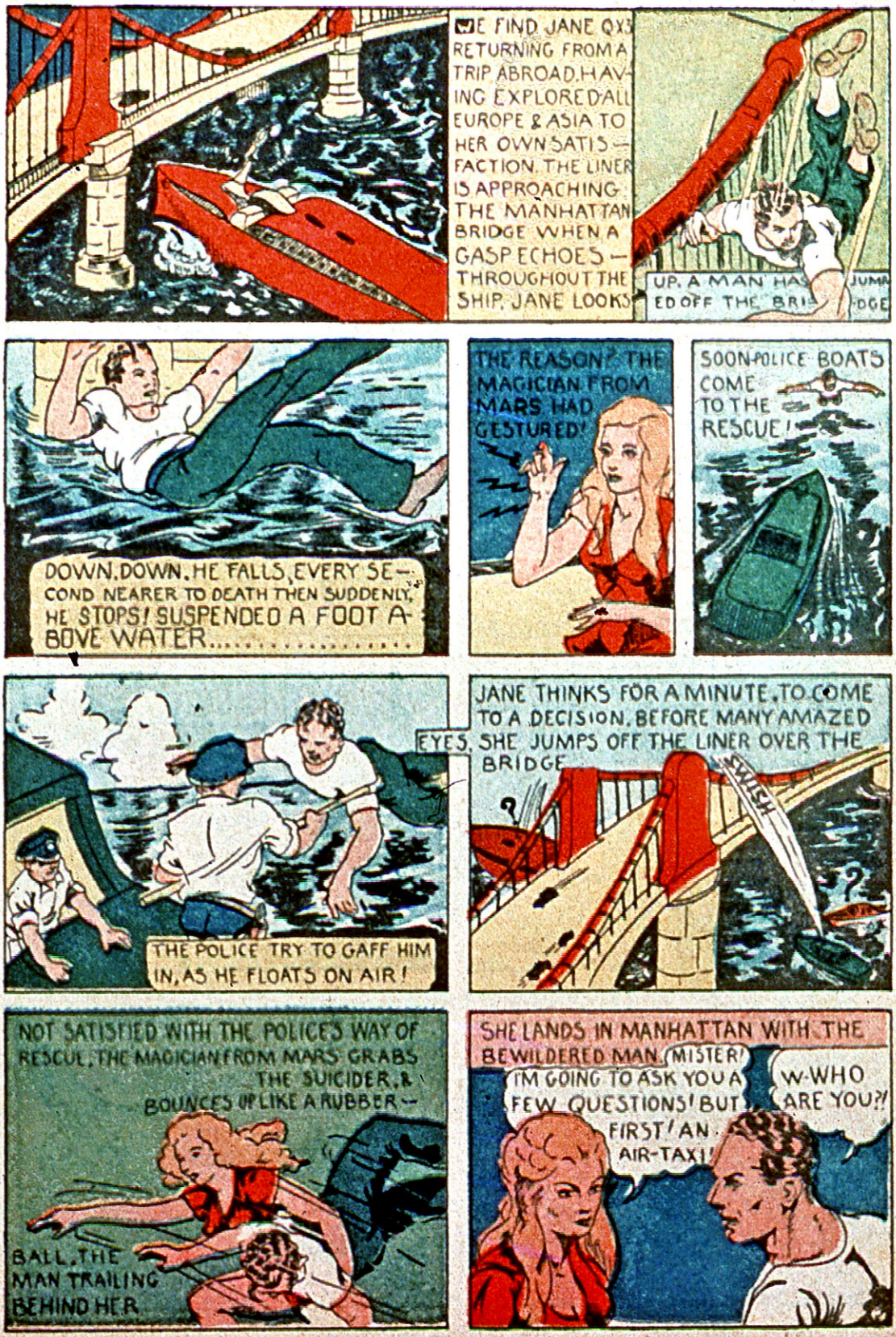

-THEN WITH A LIGHTNING-LIKE LEAP MAGNO LANDS IN FRONT OF THE SURPRISED GUARD AND WAVES HIS HAND. - THE GUARD'S GUN RIPS LOOSE FROM HIS GRIP AND SHOOTS INTO MAGNO'S MAGNETIC HAND, AS TWO OF HIS HENCHMEN WATCH.
-WHAT TH--
-THAT'S FOR DOING ME A FAVOR BY BUMPING OFF SCARTI, PAL!
-PICK UP THE BIGGEST STONES - THEY'RE WORTH OVER 50 MILLION! HAH! - SOME JOB EH, BOYS?
-SWIFTLY THE MEN THEN MOVE TO THE MUNSON COLLECTION - SMASH THE CASE, AND BEGIN PACKING AWAY THE VALUABLE JEWELS -
-YOU BOYS GOT EVERYTHING
-YEAH DOC!
-WE BETTER STEP ON IT BEFORE THE COPS COME
-THAT'S WHAT I CALL A SWEET JOB! - AND NOW FOR THE SKULL! -
-YOU'RE BACK.
-DISAPPOINTED? - -AH, BUT PART 1 OF MY CRIME.. THE MUNSON JEWELS HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL - NOW FOR PART 2! -
-6-

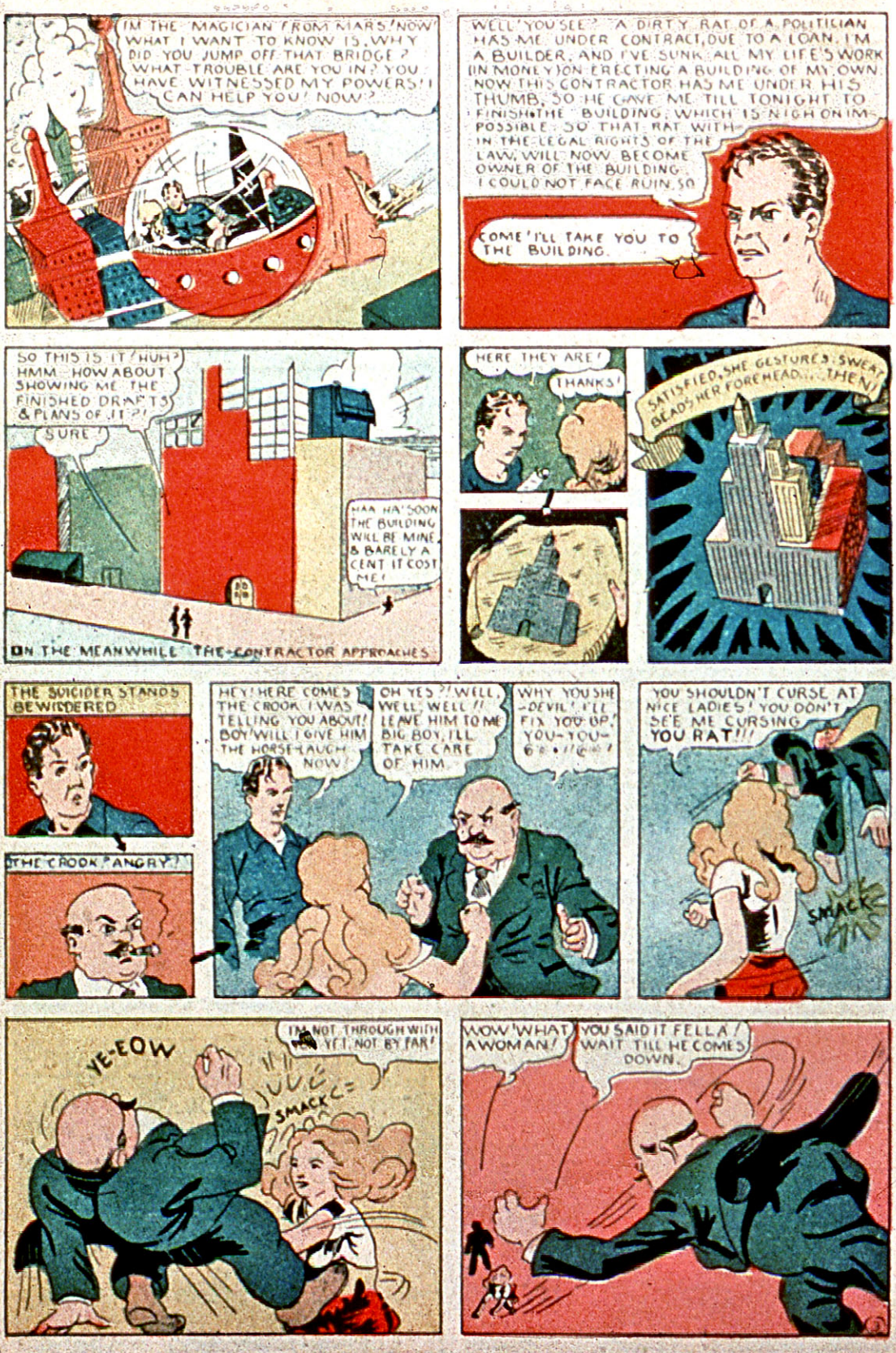

-THE MAD MAGNO THEN CALLS HIS MEN TO THE CELLAR, AND BARKS AN ORDER!
-GET THE GLASS TUBE OVER THE SKULL!-HURRY YOU DOGS!
HAH!-THIS GAS MASK OUGHT TO DO THE TRICK!
-AND NOW FOR A SURPRISE MEN!
-WITH THE SKULL COMPLETELY COVERED FROM HEAD TO FOOT BY THE TUBE, THE DOC AGAIN TURNS TO HIS
-THE SURPRISE IS ON YOU MEN!....YOU ALL HAVE DOUBLE-CROSSED ME IN THE PAST--THIS IS THE PRICE YOU MUST PAY!
-GAS! -WHY YOU NO GOOD--
-STRUGGLE YOU RATS!-IT WON'T DO YOU ANY GOOD!
-WITH THE MASK SNUG AGAINST HIS FACE, THE DOC DRAWS 2 VIALS FILLED WITH DEADLY GAS, FROM HIS POCKET AND CRASHES THEM ON THE FLOOR-
-YOU DIRTY DOG! -COUGH! COUGH! I'LL GET YOU FOR THIS
-AMBITIOUS EH, MY FRIEND?
-AS THE HALF-DEAD THUG FIRES, MAGNO WAVES HIS HAND, THUS DEFLECTING THE STEEL-JACKETED PELLET FROM ITS COURSE.
7

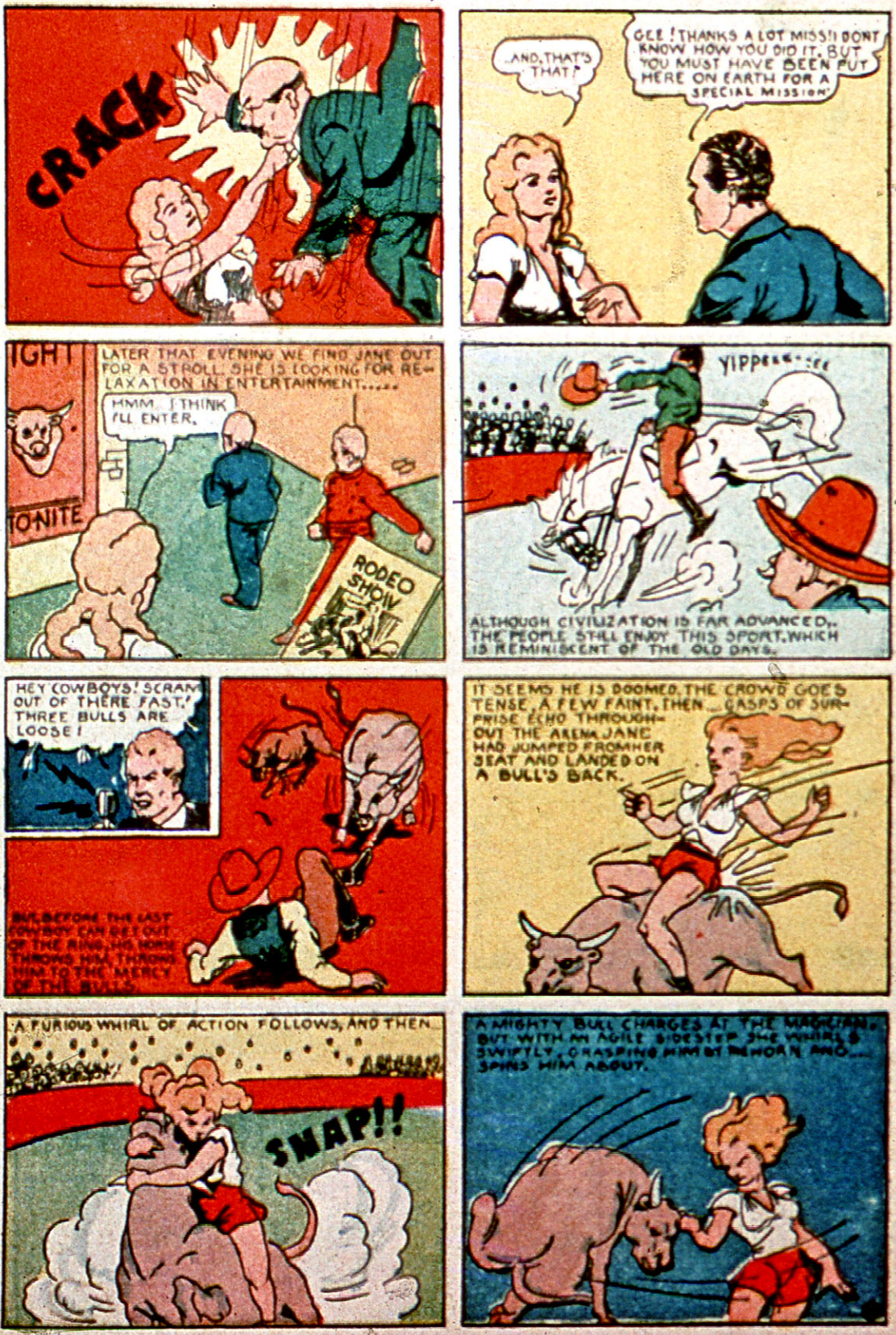

-I'M STILL ALIVE DOG!-AH, I SEE -THE GAS IS TAKING EFFECT ON YOU, THAT IS GOOD!
-I-I- FEEL SICK!-SICK! -T-THE GAS IS--OH-H-H-
-HE'S DEAD!-AND SO SKULL PART 2 OF MY DEVILISH CRIME IS COMPLETE!-AND FOR YOU DEATH BY THE MAGNET!
-AS THE GAS CLEARS, MAGNO REMOVES HIS MASK AND RAISES THE PROTECTING TUBE OVER THE SKULL.
-YOU MURDERING DEVIL, I DON'T KNOW HOW, BUT I'LL GET YOU IF IT'S THE LAST THING I DO!
-YOUR THREAT MAKES LITTLE DIFFERENCE SINCE YOUR DESTRUCTION TAKES PLACE NOW!-
-MY IDEA IS TO RIP YOU APART -BY FORCE! HAH!-SOME WAY TO DIE, -TORN TO PIECES!
-MAGNO THEN MOVES ANOTHER ELECTRO-MAGNET DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF THE SKULL AND TURNS ON THE POWER.
-THE CHAIN BROKE FIRST!
-BUT, THE CHAIN 'ROUND THE SKULL HAVING A HIGHER MAGNETIC VALUE, SNAPS FIRST- AND THE SKULL IS FREE!-
-YOU COULDN'T PICK UP PINS WITH THAT NOW!
-THEN, EVEN AS THE MAGNET PULLS THE SKULL, HE LIFTS HIS ARM, AND LETS LOOSE A SALVO OF ELECTRONIC RAYS FROM HIS ANNOD COMPTOD MACHINE CONCEALED UP HIS SLEEVE.

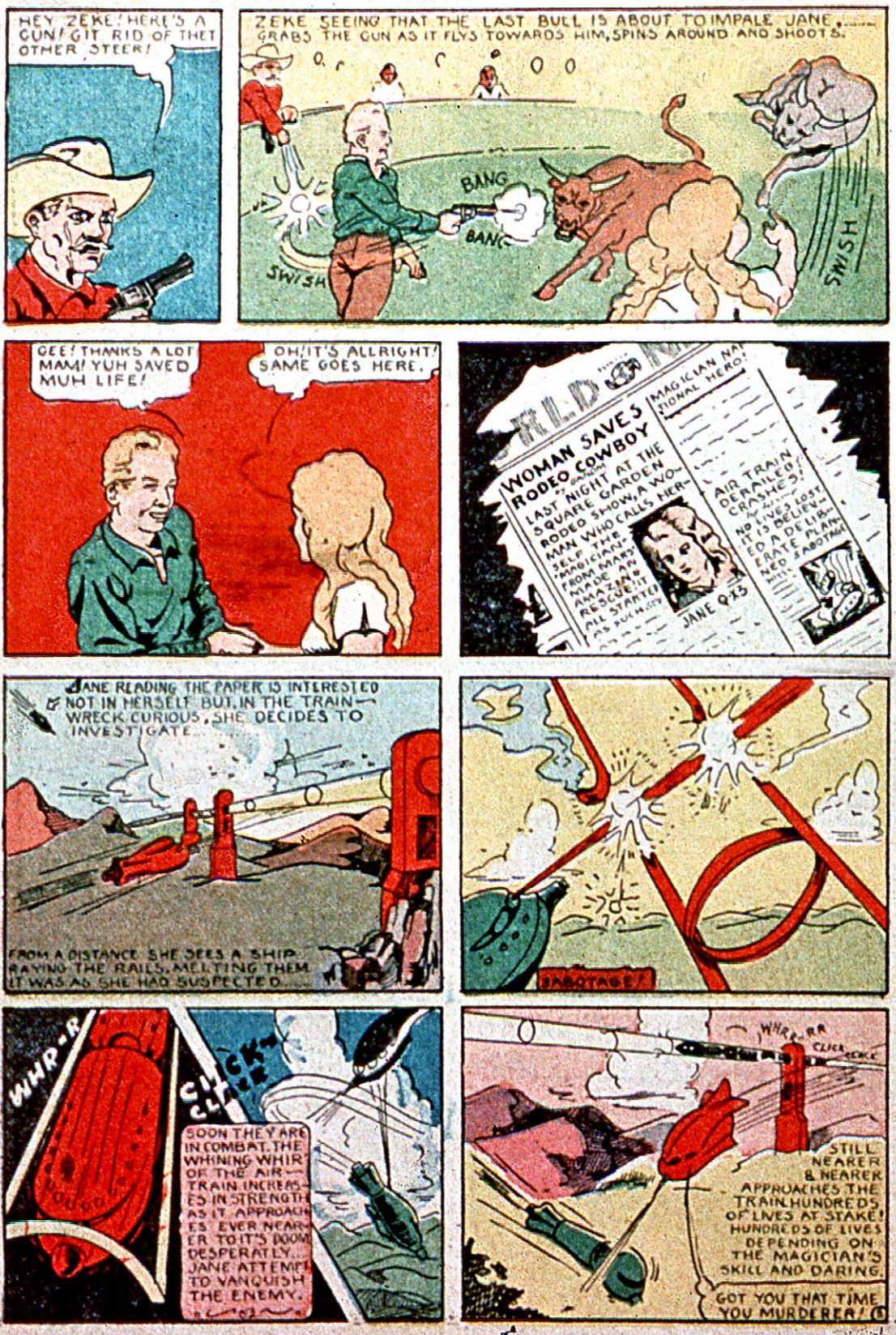

-THEN TURNING TO DR. MAGNO THE SKULL LASHES OUT WITH A DYNAMITE LEFT TO THE JAW!—
-HERE'S SOMETHING TO REMEMBER ME BY MAGNO!
-BUT AS THE PUDGY MAGNO RISES TO HIS FEET, AND TRIES TO MAKE A BREAK, THE SKULL SENDS HIM SPRAWLING WITH A TACKLE-
-ROLLING ON THE FLOOR, MAGNO'S HANDS GRIP THE SKULL'S NECK IN A DEATH HOLD!-
-BUT THE SKULL LETS LOOSE A VICIOUS RIGHT FLUSH ON THE FAT MAN'S JAW-
-AND FOLLOWS THRU WITH A HARD LEFT THAT SENDS MAGNO REELING!-
-WAIT! -I'VE HAD ENOUGH!
-OK, GET UP! -YOU'RE GOING TO -HEADQUARTERS!
-WELL COMMISH MAGNO IS IN A CELL, THE MUNSON JEWELS RETURNED- -AND-
-THIS TIME, DR. MAGNO SHALL PAY THE FULL PENALTY FOR HIS GREATEST CRIME!
-THE END-
LATER- AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS!
NEXT MONTH
ANOTHER COMPLETE
IRON SKULL
PICTURE STORY

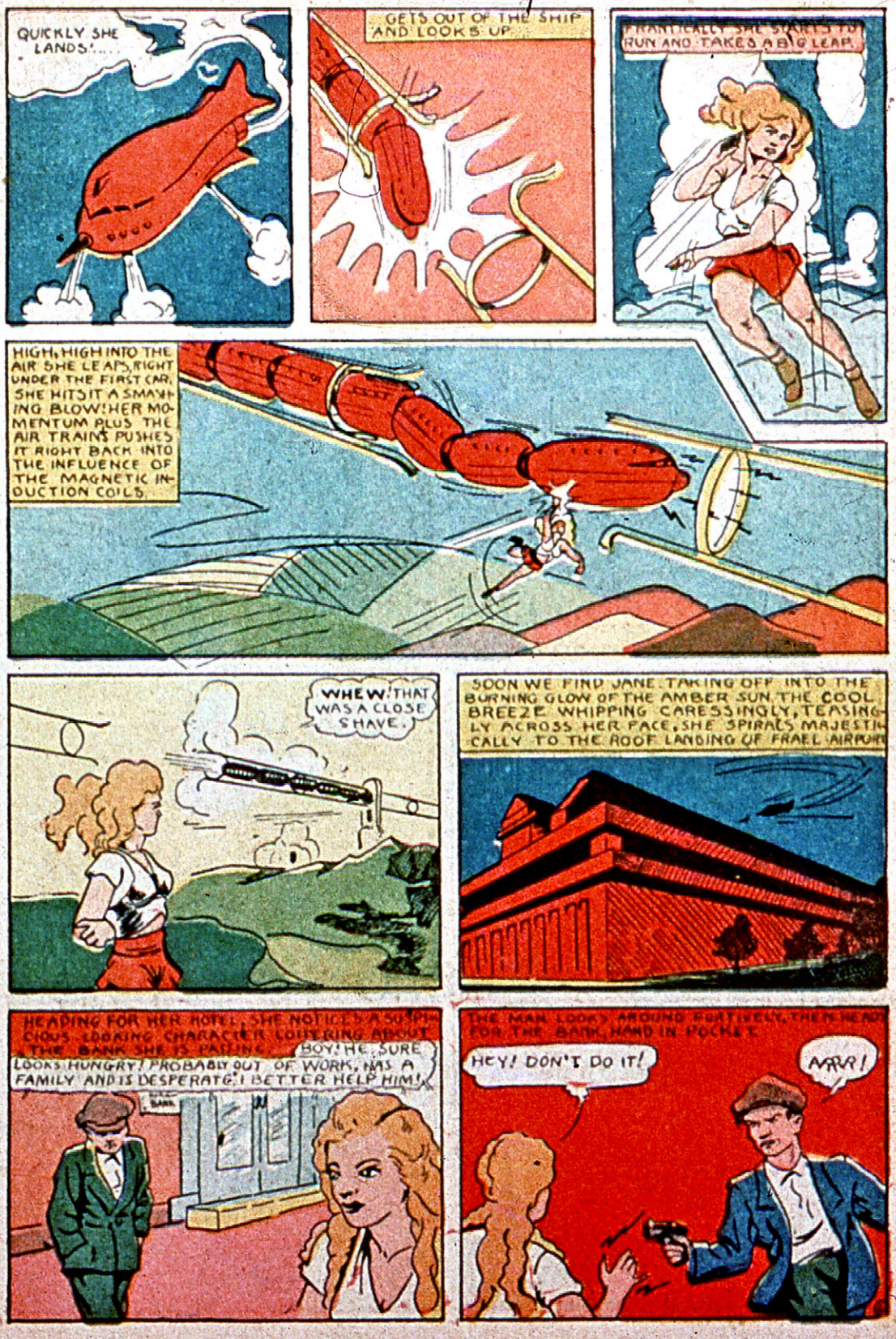

The
MAGICIAN
from
MARS
By GIUNTA & MIRANDO
HERE'S...THE MAGICIAN FROM MARS—EXTRAORDINARY CHARACTER OF MIXED MARTIAN AND EARTH BLOOD, KNOWN AS JANE Q-X-3. WHEN A BABY, HER NURSE ACCIDENTALLY EXPOSED HER TO CATHODE RAYS, WHICH DO NOT HARM A MARTIAN. JANE, BEING HALF EARTHWOMAN, WAS DIFFERENTLY AFFECTED. THIS EXPOSURE TO THE RAYS GAVE HER UNUSUAL POWERS AKIN TO MAGIC, AND CAN..... BEST BE EXPLAINED BY THE FACT THAT ORDINARILY, WE USE BUT ¼ OF OUR BRAINS. (THE CAPACITY.) ANY PERSON WHO WOULD USE IT 100% WOULD BE A GENIUS! SUCH WAS THE CASE OF JANE. HER INTELLIGENCE IS SUCH TO DAY, DUE TO THE "CATHODE RAY" OF THE OTHER ¾ OF HER BRAINS. SHE CAN EVEN "WILL" IMMORTALITY—and ALWAYS WILL REMAIN YOUNG and BEAUTIFUL.
AN ACCURATE PORTRAYAL OF THE PLANET MARS.
MARS HAS TWO MOONS TO OUR ONE. PHOBOS (FLIGHT) & DEIMOS (FEAR).
SIZE OF MARS IN COMPARISON TO EARTH.
OF THE 9 PLANETS COMPOSING OUR SOLAR SYSTEM, MARS IS 4th NEAREST THE SUN. FOLLOWING EARTH WHICH IS THIRD.
EARTH
MARS


WE FIND JANE QX3 RETURNING FROM A TRIP ABROAD, HAVING EXPLORED ALL EUROPE & ASIA TO HER OWN SATISFACTION. THE LINER IS APPROACHING THE MANHATTAN BRIDGE WHEN A GASP ECHOES — THROUGHOUT THE SHIP. JANE LOOKS
UP. A MAN HAS JUMPED OFF THE BRIDGE
DOWN, DOWN, HE FALLS, EVERY SECOND NEARER TO DEATH THEN SUDDENLY, HE STOPS! SUSPENDED A FOOT ABOVE WATER.....
THE REASON? THE MAGICIAN FROM MARS HAD GESTURED!
SOON POLICE BOATS COME TO THE RESCUE!
THE POLICE TRY TO GAFF HIM IN, AS HE FLOATS ON AIR!
JANE THINKS FOR A MINUTE, TO COME TO A DECISION. BEFORE MANY AMAZED EYES, SHE JUMPS OFF THE LINER OVER THE BRIDGE
WISH
NOT SATISFIED WITH THE POLICE'S WAY OF RESCUE, THE MAGICIAN FROM MARS GRABS THE SUICIDER, & BOUNCES UP LIKE A RUBBER —
BALL, THE MAN TRAILING BEHIND HER
SHE LANDS IN MANHATTAN WITH THE BEWILDERED MAN. (MISTER! I'M GOING TO ASK YOU A FEW QUESTIONS! BUT FIRST! AN AIR-TAXI!
W-WHO ARE YOU?!

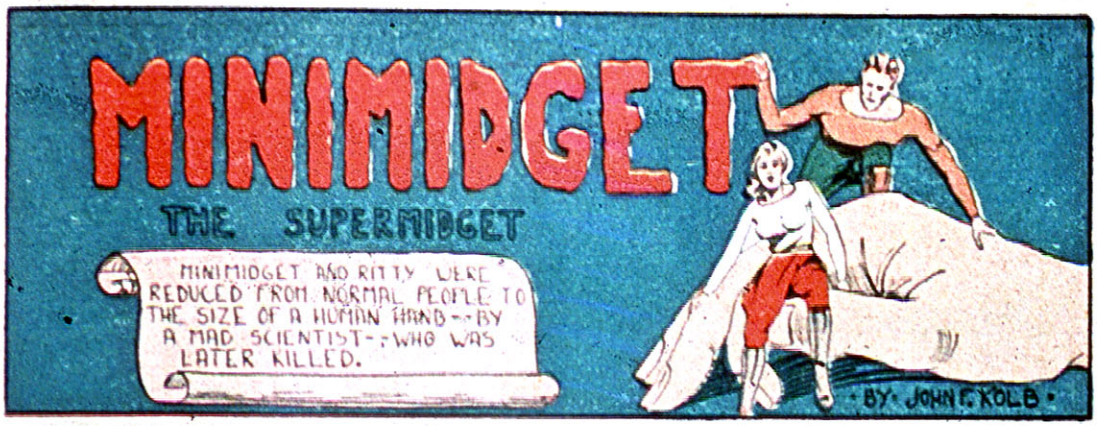

I'M THE MAGICIAN FROM MARS! NOW WHAT I WANT TO KNOW IS, WHY DID YOU JUMP OFF THAT BRIDGE? WHAT TROUBLE ARE YOU IN? YOU HAVE WITNESSED MY POWERS! I CAN HELP YOU! NOW?
WELL YOU SEE? A DIRTY RAT OF A POLITICIAN HAS ME UNDER CONTRACT, DUE TO A LOAN. I'M A BUILDER, AND I'VE SUNK ALL MY LIFE'S WORK (IN MONEY) ON ERECTING A BUILDING OF MY OWN. NOW THIS CONTRACTOR HAS ME UNDER HIS THUMB, SO HE GAVE ME TILL TONIGHT TO FINISH THE BUILDING, WHICH IS NIGH ON IMPOSSIBLE. SO THAT RAT WITHIN THE LEGAL RIGHTS OF THE LAW, WILL NOW BECOME OWNER OF THE BUILDING. I COULD NOT FACE RUIN, SO
COME! I'LL TAKE YOU TO THE BUILDING.
SO THIS IS IT! HUH? HMM—HOW ABOUT SHOWING ME THE FINISHED DRAFTS & PLANS OF IT?!
SURE!
HAA HA! SOON THE BUILDING WILL BE MINE, & BARELY A CENT IT COST ME!
ON THE MEANWHILE THE CONTRACTOR APPROACHES
HERE THEY ARE!
THANKS!
SATISFIED, SHE GESTURES; SWEAT BEADS HER FOREHEAD... THEN!
THE SUICIDER STANDS BEWILDERED
THE CROOK ANGRY?
HEY! HERE COMES THE CROOK I WAS TELLING YOU ABOUT! BOY WILL I GIVE HIM THE HORSE-LAUGH NOW!
OH YES?! WELL, WELL, WELL!! LEAVE HIM TO ME BIG BOY, I'LL TAKE CARE OF HIM.
WHY YOU SHE-DEVIL! I'LL FIX YOU UP! YOU—YOU—
YOU SHOULDN'T CURSE AT NICE LADIES! YOU DON'T SEE ME CURSING YOU RAT!!!
SMACK
YE-EOW
I'M NOT THROUGH WITH YET, NOT BY FAR!
JULIE
SMACK
WOW! WHAT A WOMAN!
YOU SAID IT FELLA! WAIT TILL HE COMES DOWN.

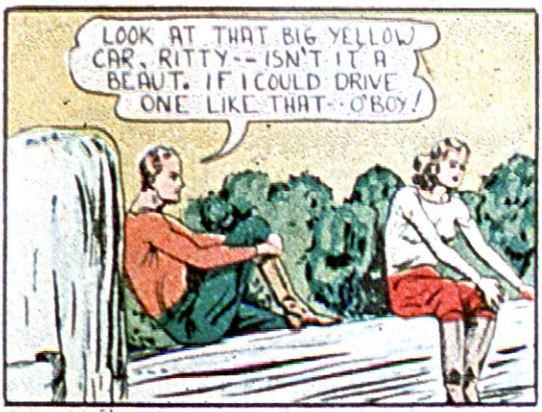

CRACK
AND, THAT'S THAT!
GEE! THANKS A LOT MISS!! I DONT KNOW HOW YOU DID IT. BUT YOU MUST HAVE BEEN PUT HERE ON EARTH FOR A SPECIAL MISSION
IGHT
LATER THAT EVENING WE FIND JANE OUT FOR A STROLL SHE IS LOOKING FOR RELAXATION IN ENTERTAINMENT.....
HMM. I THINK I'LL ENTER.
TONITE
RODEO SHOW
YIPPEE-EE
ALTHOUGH CIVILIZATION IS FAR ADVANCED, THE PEOPLE STILL ENJOY THIS SPORT, WHICH IS REMINISCENT OF THE OLD DAYS.
HEY COWBOYS! SCRAM OUT OF THERE FAST. THREE BULLS ARE LOOSE!
BUT BEFORE THE LAST COWBOY CAN GET OUT OF THE RING, HIS HORSE THROWS HIM, THROWS HIM TO THE MERCY OF THE BULLS
IT SEEMS HE IS DOOMED. THE CROWD GOES TENSE, A FEW FAINT, THEN GASPS OF SURPRISE ECHO THROUGHOUT THE ARENA. JANE HAD JUMPED FROM HER SEAT AND LANDED ON A BULL'S BACK.
A FURIOUS WHIRL OF ACTION FOLLOWS, AND THEN...
SNAP!!
A MIGHTY BULL CHARGES AT THE MAGICIAN, BUT WITH AN AGILE SIDESTEP SHE WHIRLS SWIFTLY, GRASPING HIM BY THE HORN AND... SPINS HIM ABOUT.

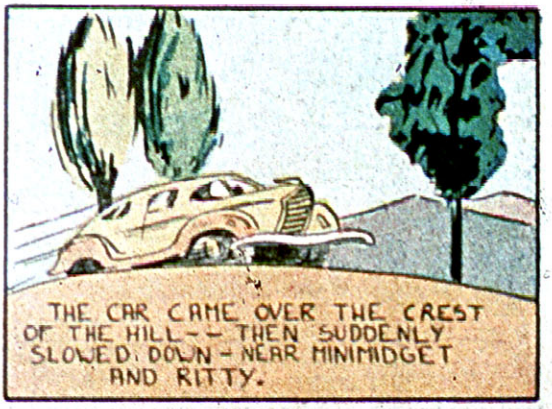

HEY ZEKE! HERE'S A GUN! GIT RID OF THET OTHER STEER!
ZEKE SEEING THAT THE LAST BULL IS ABOUT TO IMPALE JANE..... GRABS THE GUN AS IT FLYS TOWARDS HIM, SPINS AROUND AND SHOOTS.
BANG
BANG
SWISH
SWISH
GEE! THANKS A LOT MAM! YUH SAVED MUH LIFE!
OH, IT'S ALLRIGHT! SAME GOES HERE.
WORLD
WOMAN SAVES RODEO COWBOY
LAST NIGHT AT THE SQUARE GARDEN RODEO SHOW, A WOMAN WHO CALLS HERSELF THE "MAGICIAN" FROM MARS MADE AN AMAZING RESCUE! IT ALL STARTED AS SUCH THINGS
MAGICIAN NATIONAL HERO!
AIR TRAIN CRASHES!
NO LIVES LOST IT IS BELIEVED A DELIBERATE PLANNED SABOTAGE
JANE Q.?
JANE READING THE PAPER IS INTERESTED NOT IN HERSELF BUT, IN THE TRAIN-WRECK CURIOUS, SHE DECIDES TO INVESTIGATE.....
FROM A DISTANCE SHE SEES A SHIP RAYING THE RAILS, MELTING THEM. IT WAS AS SHE HAD SUSPECTED.
SABOTAGE!
WHR-R
CLICK-CLICK
SOON THEY ARE IN COMBAT. THE WHINING WHIR OF THE AIR-TRAIN INCREASES IN STRENGTH AS IT APPROACHES EVER NEARER TO IT'S DOOM DESPERATELY JANE ATTEMPTS TO VANQUISH THE ENEMY.
WHR-R-R
CLICK-CLICK
STILL NEARER & NEARER APPROACHES THE TRAIN HUNDREDS OF LIVES AT STAKE! HUNDREDS OF LIVES DEPENDING ON THE MAGICIAN'S SKILL AND DARING.
GOT YOU THAT TIME YOU MURDERER!

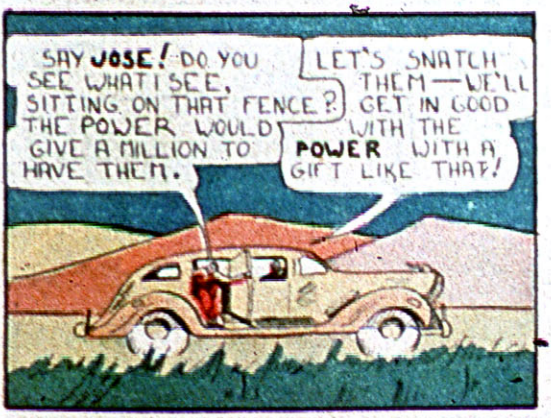

QUICKLY SHE LANDS!....
GETS OUT OF THE SHIP AND LOOKS UP.
FRANTICALLY SHE STARTS TO RUN AND TAKES A BIG LEAP.
HIGH, HIGH INTO THE AIR SHE LEAPS, RIGHT UNDER THE FIRST CAR. SHE HITS IT A SMASHING BLOW! HER MOMENTUM PLUS THE AIR TRAINS PUSHES IT RIGHT BACK INTO THE INFLUENCE OF THE MAGNETIC INDUCTION COILS.
WHEW! THAT WAS A CLOSE SHAVE.
SOON WE FIND JANE TAKING OFF INTO THE BURNING GLOW OF THE AMBER SUN. THE COOL BREEZE WHIPPING CARESSINGLY, TEASINGLY ACROSS HER FACE, SHE SPIRALS MAJESTICALLY TO THE ROOF LANDING OF FRAEL AIRPORT
HEADING FOR HER HOTEL, SHE NOTICES A SUSPICIOUS-LOOKING CHARACTER LOITERING ABOUT THE BANK SHE IS PASSING.
BOY! HE SURE LOOKS HUNGRY! PROBABLY OUT OF WORK, HAS A FAMILY AND IS DESPERATE! I BETTER HELP HIM!
BANK
THE MAN LOOKS AROUND FURTIVELY, THEN HEADS FOR THE BANK, HAND IN POCKET.
HEY! DON'T DO IT!
AARR!

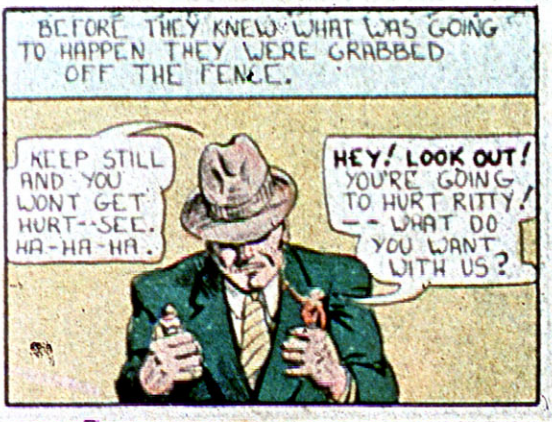

WHAT TH'?!..
....FLASH AND THE GUN TURNS TO A ROLL OF MONEY...
...UNDERSTANDING FLOODS THE MAN'S MIND AND DEEP GRATITUDE SHINES IN HIS EYES TEARS STREAM DOWN HIS FACE AND A SOB ISSUES FROM HIS THROAT. THEN CLUTCHING THE MONEY TIGHTLY HE TURNS AND FLEES.
THIS PEN IT WON'T WORK!
I GUESS HE WANT'S SOME INK! WELL! I'LL LET HIM HAVE IT.
YOU CALL THIS SERVICE?! BAH!... WHY IN WASHINGTON WE HAVE SERVICE THAT IS SERVICE! NOW I WANT SOME INK YOU HEAR! I WANT INK! INK! INK!
LATER! IN THE MAGICIAN FROM MARS' ROOM!
THIS SERIES OF EVENTS HAVE BEEN QUITE TRYING! BUT THEY LEAD ME TO A DEFINITE CONCLUSION, THAT THIS WORLD NEEDS ME!
THEN SUDDENLY THE HOTEL SEEMS TO BECOME FLOODED WITH INK.
HELP


MINIMIDGET
THE SUPERMIDGET
MINIMIDGET AND RITTY WERE REDUCED FROM NORMAL PEOPLE TO THE SIZE OF A HUMAN HAND -- BY A MAD SCIENTIST -- WHO WAS LATER KILLED.
BY JOHN F. KOLB

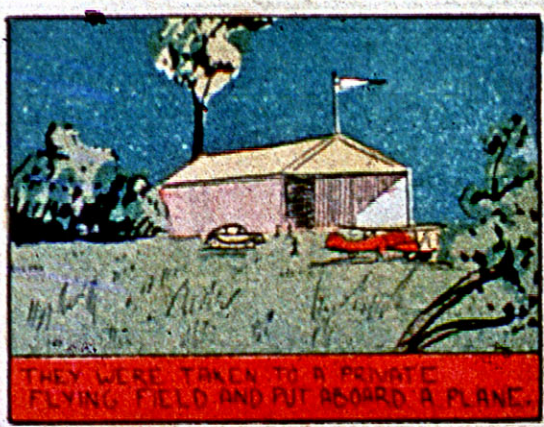

LOOK AT THAT BIG YELLOW CAR, RITTY -- ISN'T IT A BEAUT. IF I COULD DRIVE ONE LIKE THAT -- O'BOY!

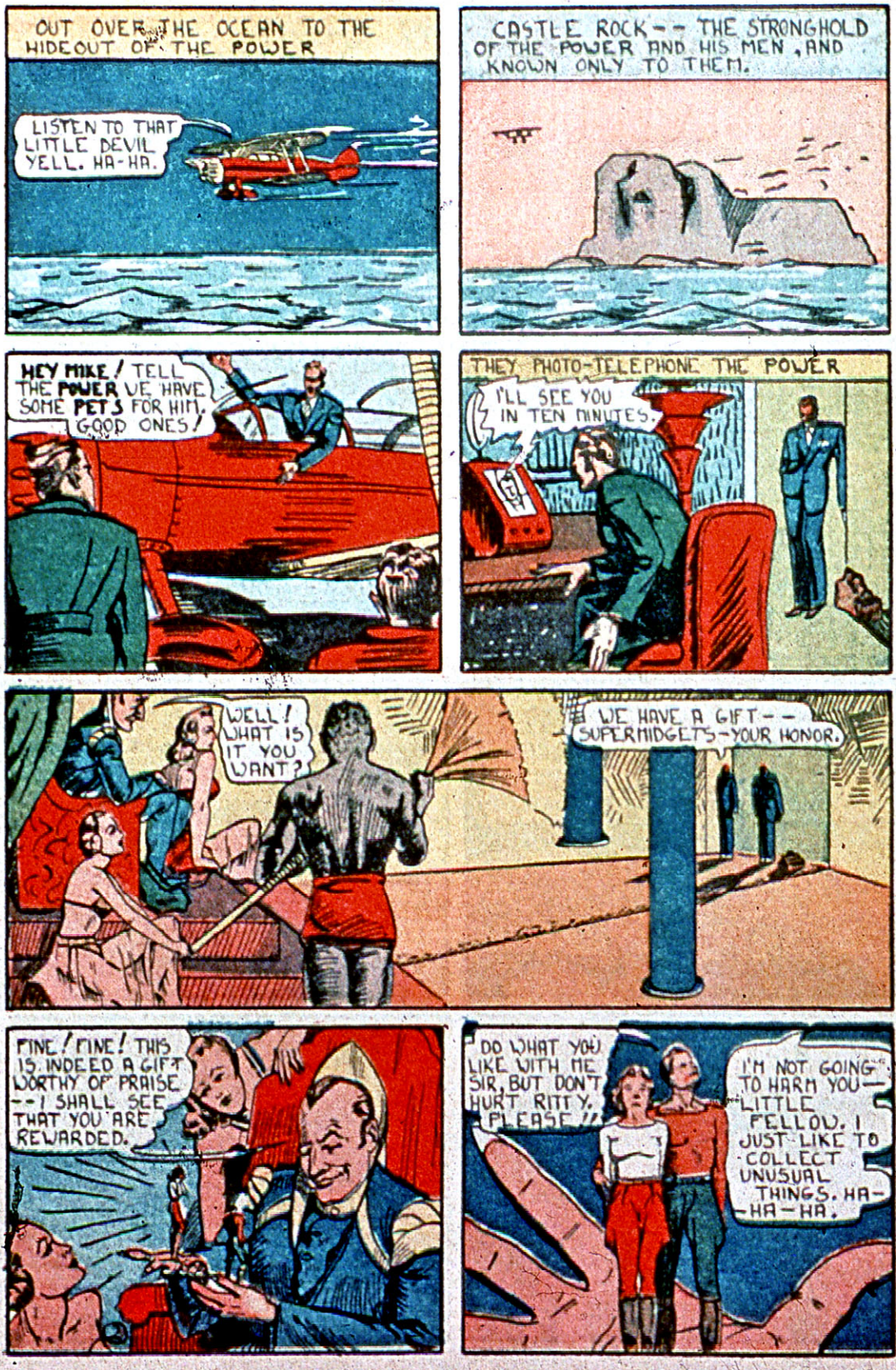

THE CAR CAME OVER THE CREST OF THE HILL -- THEN SUDDENLY SLOWED DOWN - NEAR MINIMIDGET AND RITTY.


SAY JOSE! DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE, SITTING ON THAT FENCE? THE POWER WOULD GIVE A MILLION TO HAVE THEM.
LET'S SNATCH THEM — WE'LL GET IN GOOD WITH THE POWER WITH A GIFT LIKE THAT!

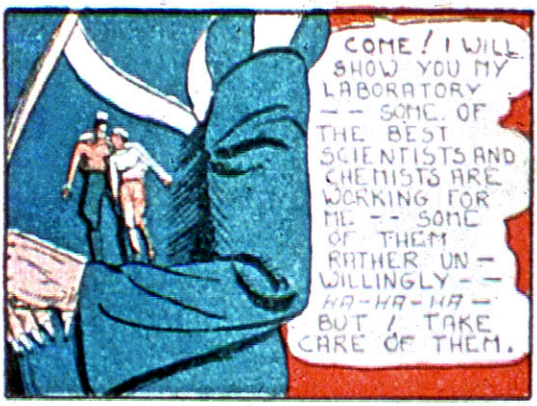

BEFORE THEY KNEW WHAT WAS GOING TO HAPPEN THEY WERE GRABBED OFF THE FENCE.
KEEP STILL AND YOU WONT GET HURT -- SEE. HA-HA-HA.
HEY! LOOK OUT! YOU'RE GOING TO HURT RITTY! -- WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH US?

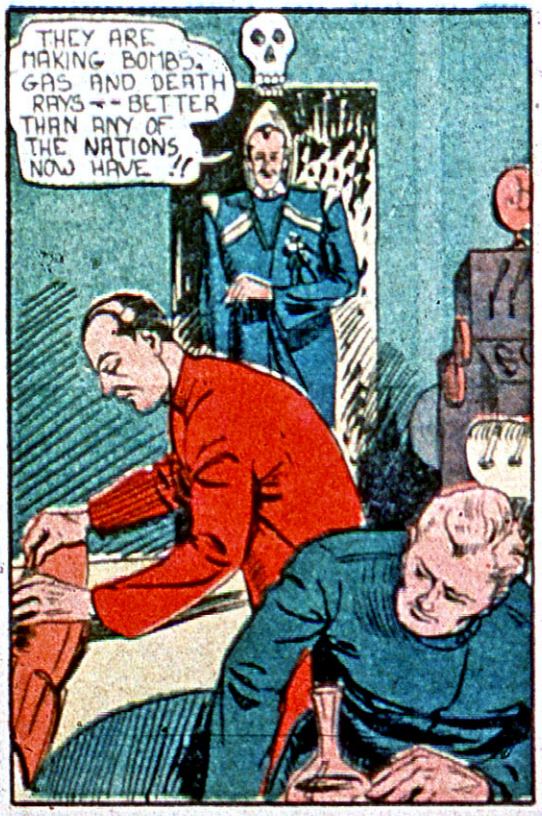

PUT THEM IN THE SATCHEL. I PUT HOLES IN IT -- THEY WONT SMOTHER.

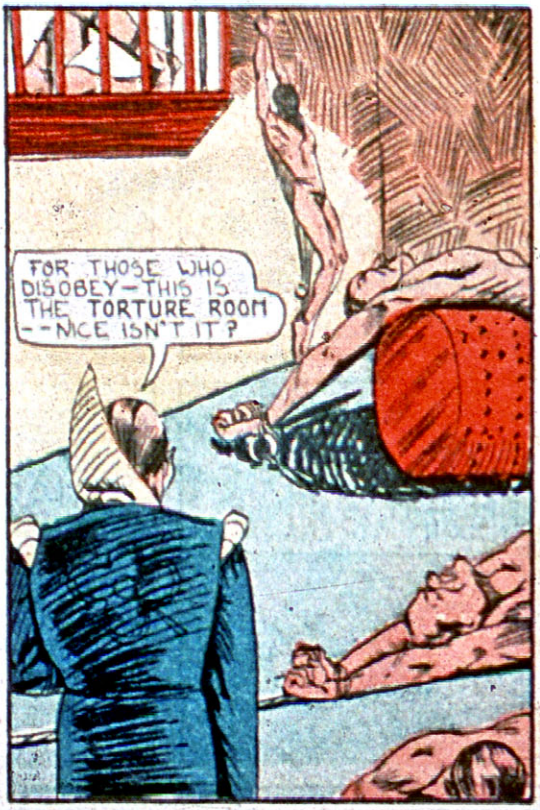

THEY WERE TAKEN TO A PRIVATE FLYING FIELD AND PUT ABOARD A PLANE.

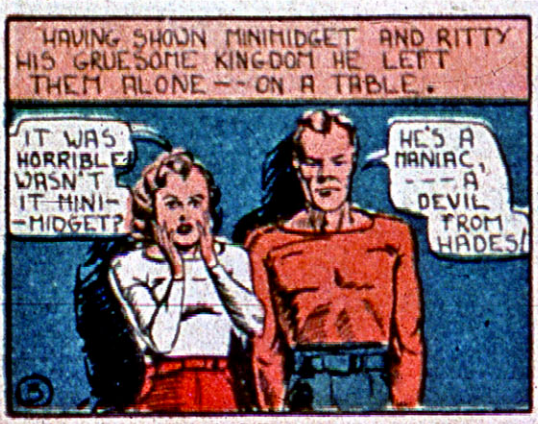

OUT OVER THE OCEAN TO THE HIDEOUT OF THE POWER
LISTEN TO THAT LITTLE DEVIL YELL. HA-HA.
CASTLE ROCK -- THE STRONGHOLD OF THE POWER AND HIS MEN, AND KNOWN ONLY TO THEM.
HEY MIKE! TELL THE POWER WE HAVE SOME PETS FOR HIM. GOOD ONES!
THEY PHOTO-TELEPHONE THE POWER
I'LL SEE YOU IN TEN MINUTES.
WELL! WHAT IS IT YOU WANT?
WE HAVE A GIFT -- SUPERMIDGETS - YOUR HONOR.
FINE! FINE! THIS IS INDEED A GIFT WORTHY OF PRAISE -- I SHALL SEE THAT YOU ARE REWARDED.
DO WHAT YOU LIKE WITH ME SIR, BUT DON'T HURT RITTY, PLEASE!!
I'M NOT GOING TO HARM YOU -- LITTLE FELLOW. I JUST LIKE TO COLLECT UNUSUAL THINGS. HA-HA-HA.

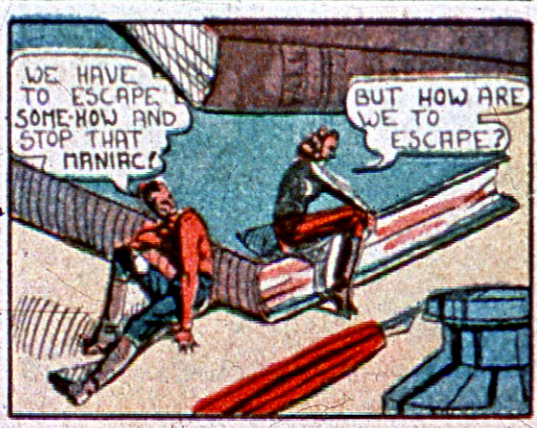

I'M GOING TO RULE THE WORLD -- MY MEN ARE NOW IN MANY COUNTRIES WHICH WILL BE OVER-THROWN -- SOME HAVE BEEN ALREADY -- HA-HA HA -- THE REST I WILL SOON GET -- AND BE RULER OF EARTH!

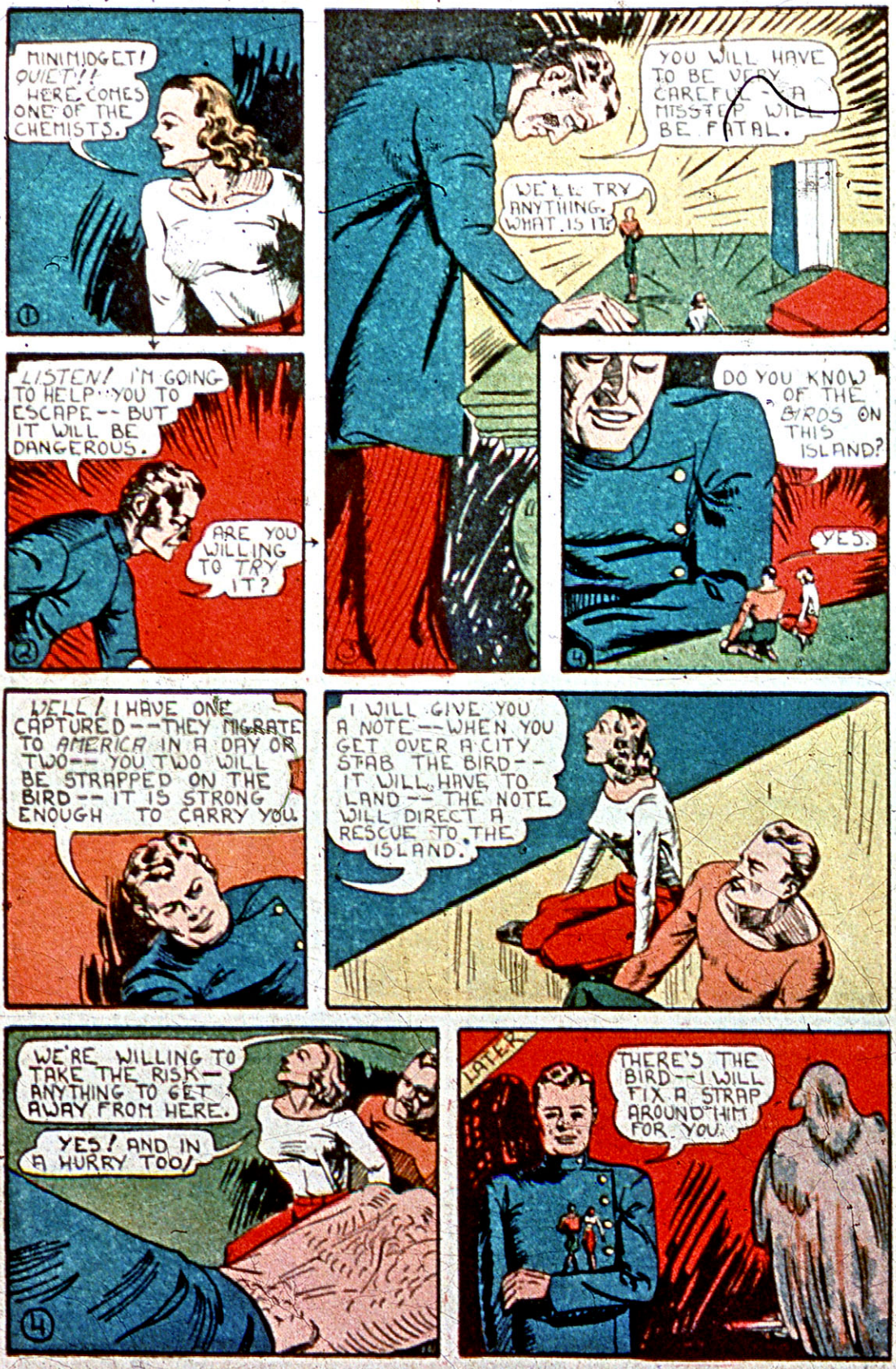

COME! I WILL SHOW YOU MY LABORATORY -- SOME OF THE BEST SCIENTISTS AND CHEMISTS ARE WORKING FOR ME -- SOME OF THEM RATHER UN-WILLINGLY -- HA-HA-HA -- BUT I TAKE CARE OF THEM.

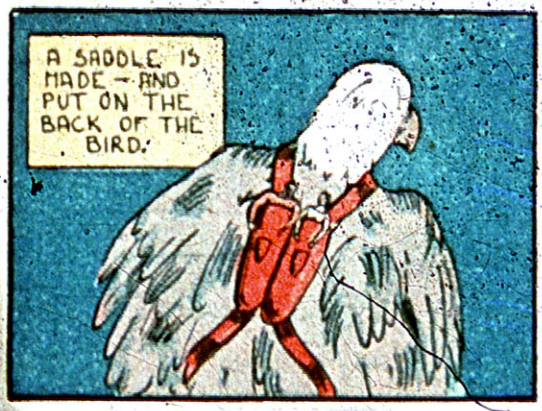

THEY ARE MAKING BOMBS, GAS AND DEATH RAYS -- BETTER THAN ANY OF THE NATIONS NOW HAVE!!

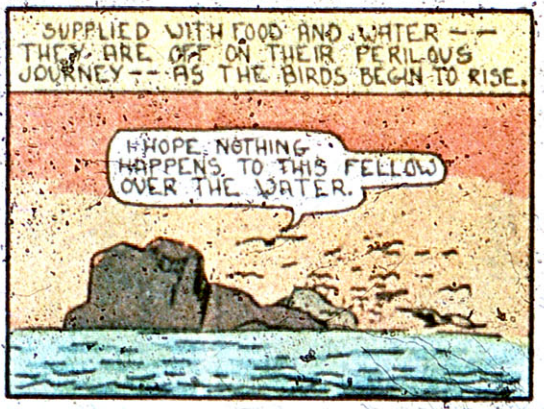

FOR THOSE WHO DISOBEY -- THIS IS THE TORTURE ROOM -- NICE ISN'T IT?

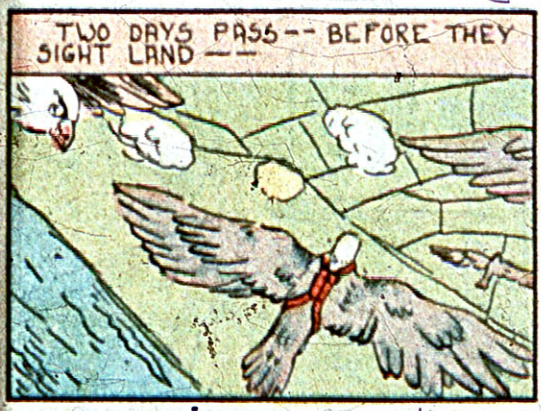

HAVING SHOWN MINIMIDGET AND RITTY HIS GRUESOME KINGDOM HE LEFT THEM ALONE -- ON A TABLE.
IT WAS HORRIBLE WASN'T IT MINI-MIDGET?
HE'S A MANIAC, --- A DEVIL FROM HADES!
13

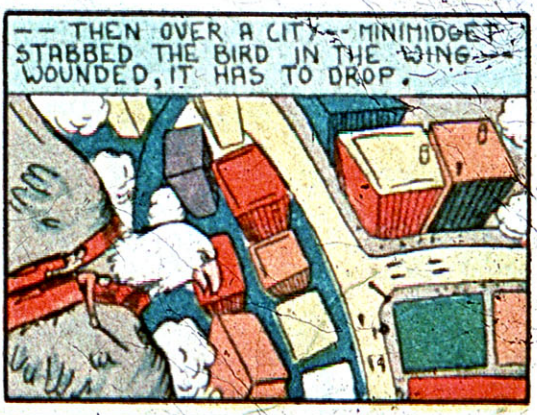

WE HAVE TO ESCAPE SOME-HOW AND STOP THAT MANIAC!
BUT HOW ARE WE TO ESCAPE?


MINIMIDGET! QUIET!! HERE COMES ONE OF THE CHEMISTS.
1
YOU WILL HAVE TO BE VERY CAREFUL - A MISSTEP WILL BE FATAL.
WE'LL TRY ANYTHING. WHAT IS IT?
LISTEN! I'M GOING TO HELP YOU TO ESCAPE -- BUT IT WILL BE DANGEROUS.
ARE YOU WILLING TO TRY IT?
2
3
DO YOU KNOW OF THE BIRDS ON THIS ISLAND?
YES.
4
WELL! I HAVE ONE CAPTURED -- THEY MIGRATE TO AMERICA IN A DAY OR TWO -- YOU TWO WILL BE STRAPPED ON THE BIRD -- IT IS STRONG ENOUGH TO CARRY YOU.
I WILL GIVE YOU A NOTE -- WHEN YOU GET OVER A CITY STAB THE BIRD -- IT WILL HAVE TO LAND -- THE NOTE WILL DIRECT A RESCUE TO THE ISLAND.
WE'RE WILLING TO TAKE THE RISK -- ANYTHING TO GET AWAY FROM HERE.
YES! AND IN A HURRY TOO!
4
LATER
THERE'S THE BIRD -- I WILL FIX A STRAP AROUND HIM FOR YOU.


A SADDLE IS MADE — AND PUT ON THE BACK OF THE BIRD.

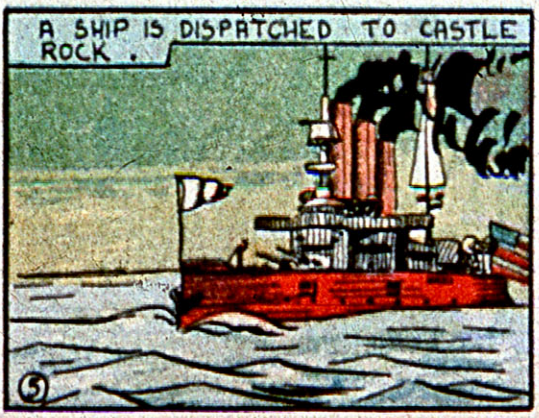

SUPPLIED WITH FOOD AND WATER — THEY ARE OFF ON THEIR PERILOUS JOURNEY — AS THE BIRDS BEGIN TO RISE.
I HOPE NOTHING HAPPENS TO THIS FELLOW OVER THE WATER.

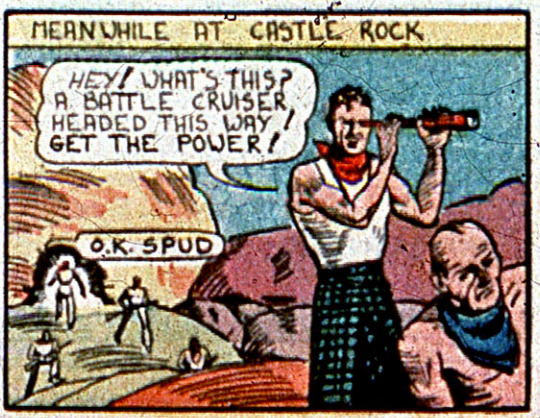

TWO DAYS PASS — BEFORE THEY SIGHT LAND —

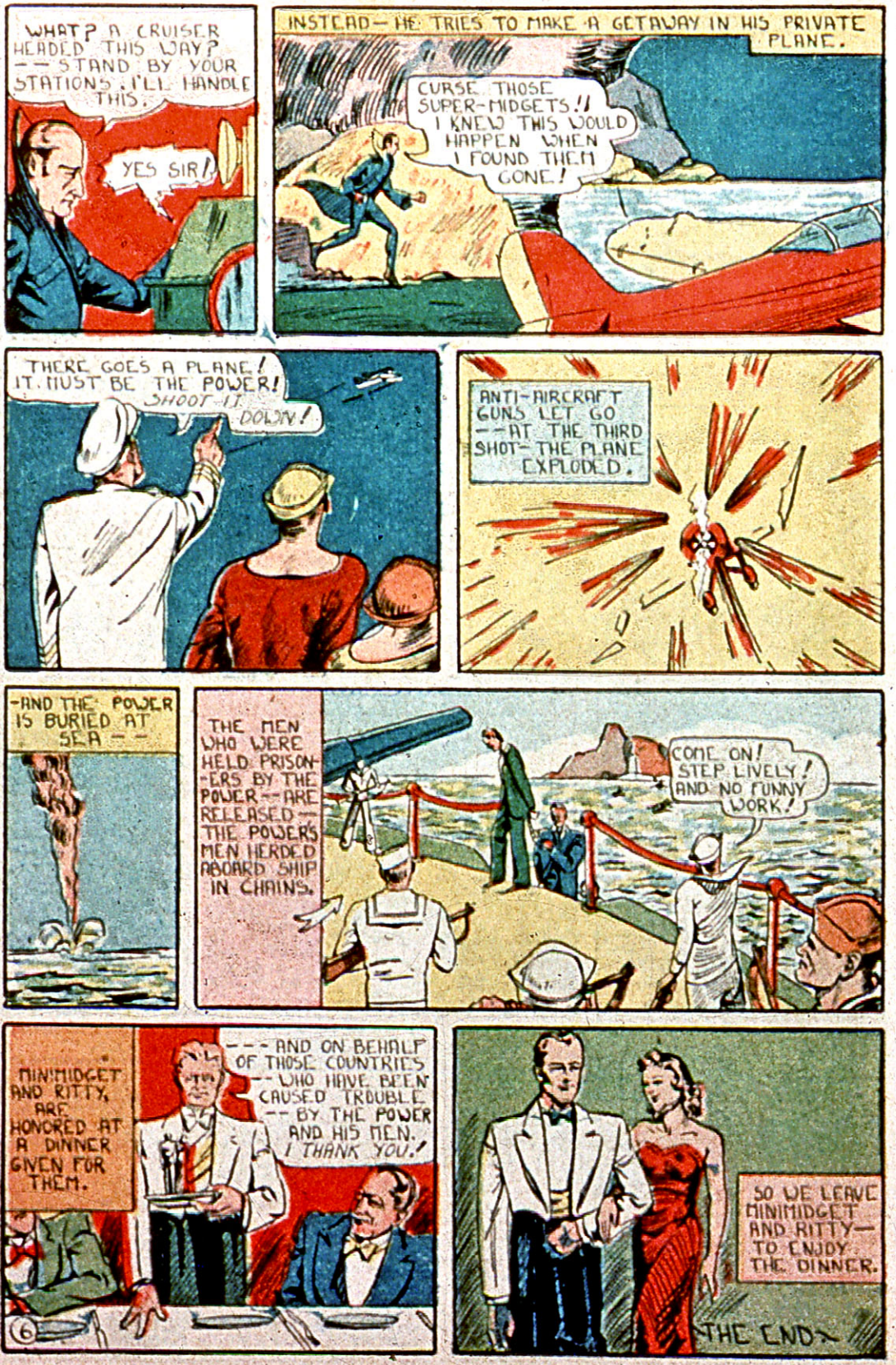

— THEN OVER A CITY — MINIMIDGET STABBED THE BIRD IN THE WING — WOUNDED, IT HAS TO DROP.


TIRED AND EXHAUSTED FROM THEIR TRIP, THEY NEVERTHELESS DELIVER THE MESSAGE — FOR HELP — TO THE POLICE.


NAVAL HEADQUARTERS IS CONTACTED.
THIS IS ASTOUNDING — WE WILL SEND A SHIP AT ONCE — GOOD DAY SIR.


A SHIP IS DISPATCHED TO CASTLE ROCK.
5


MEANWHILE AT CASTLE ROCK
HEY! WHAT'S THIS? A BATTLE CRUISER HEADED THIS WAY! GET THE POWER!
O.K. SPUD


WHAT? A CRUISER HEADED THIS WAY? -- STAND BY YOUR STATIONS. I'LL HANDLE THIS.
YES SIR!
INSTEAD— HE TRIES TO MAKE A GETAWAY IN HIS PRIVATE PLANE.
CURSE THOSE SUPER-MIDGETS!! I KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN WHEN I FOUND THEM GONE!
THERE GOES A PLANE! IT MUST BE THE POWER! SHOOT IT DOWN!
ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNS LET GO -- AT THE THIRD SHOT— THE PLANE EXPLODED.
-AND THE POWER IS BURIED AT SEA --
THE MEN WHO WERE HELD PRISONERS BY THE POWER -- ARE RELEASED — THE POWER'S MEN HERDED ABOARD SHIP IN CHAINS.
COME ON! STEP LIVELY! AND NO FUNNY WORK!
MINIMIDGET AND RITTY, ARE HONORED AT A DINNER GIVEN FOR THEM.
--- AND ON BEHALF OF THOSE COUNTRIES -- WHO HAVE BEEN CAUSED TROUBLE -- BY THE POWER AND HIS MEN. I THANK YOU!
6
SO WE LEAVE MINIMIDGET AND RITTY— TO ENJOY THE DINNER.
THE END

LOCO LOBO



In Which You Will See How It Is That Even In The Deep Mesa, The Hand Can Be Faster Than The Eye!

By David C. Cooke

DRAKE HANLEY slowly and deliberately lifted his carbine. He cooly peered down the sight, centering the business end of the rifle on a blindfolded figure that was standing several yards farther down the mesa. Drake squeezed the trigger and sent a lethal stream of death straight at the unmoving figure of Sheriff Carey Phelan.

Phelan doubled up in pain, reeled drunkenly for a moment, and then toppled forward into a pit.

Hanley lowered his gun, a cruel smile playing around the corners of his tightly-drawn lips, and walked slowly toward the pit into which Phelan had fallen. "An' there's one more sheriff jasper who won't be botherin' me no more," he said, kicking a clump of dirt into the pit. He then picked up a shovel, pitched a small amount of dirt onto the body, and then stopped abruptly as he saw several buzzards hovering overhead in the sky.

Once more that killer's grin crossed his face. "Reckon you outlaws have to eat, too," he said, looking up at the buzzards. "Wal, I'll jest leave him uncovered an' let you go to work, after the sun makes him ripe enough."

With that, Drake Hanley—who was wanted for killing, rustling, and everything else in the books—straddled his calico and rode out into the desert.

SEVERAL minutes later a figure climbed from the pit into which Phelan had fallen. He dusted off his chaps and stooped over, picking up a gun from the ground. The man then raised his hands to his mouth, called loudly: "José! José, where are you? He has gone." He then sat down on a boulder and rolled a cigarette.

Then, just as he took the first puff and let the smoke drift into the stillness of the coming night, a jet-black pony rode up the side of the hill and halted beside him, sending a great spray of dust into the air.

"*Amigo, Carey,*" called the figure who vaulted from the back of the pony, "eet is I, José. He has left, yes"?

"Yes," answered Carey Phelan, "he's gone, José. And now I'm positive that we'll be able to catch that hombre with the goods. But I'm afraid we'll have to ride double; Hanley chased my pony, you know."

"*Si,*" said the Mexican. "And it is well that I loaded his gun with blanks back in town, no?"

Phelan jumped to the saddle, and José straddled the broad back of the calico. "Yes," he answered as he touched his spurs lightly to the pony's flanks. "And it's also a good thing that Hanley didn't guess that I let him catch me out here on the mesa just so we could follow him to his hide-out better. But now, unless I miss my guess, we'll be able to find him with all of the *dinero* he stole from the Central Bank last week."

José nodded, a smile spreading across his homely, tanned features, and the pony sped away in the direction that Hanley had taken.

"HERE'S where the trail ends," Carey whispered to José when they came to the foot of a high plateau. "I reckon that Hanley hombre has got a place up there in the rocks some place. Come on, let's get after him pronto."

They got off the horse, hid it behind a clump of trees, and slowly started to ascend the worn path that led up the side of the incline.

For several minutes they climbed slowly, and then Phelan stopped short, ducked back behind a boulder. "There," he said to José in hushed tones, "is where the hombre has been hiding out for the last week." He pointed to one of the many caves that dotted the side of the cliff. "See," he continued, "he's got a dim light burning far in the back of his hide-out."

José nodded. "*Si, amigo,*" he answered. "Let us proceed cautiously, lest he hear us."

Then, silently, they made their way to the mouth of the cave, keeping well in the shadows. Carey drew his six-gun, cocked it, and held it ready. Then in a booming voice, he called: "Come out, Hanley, or be smoked out! We got you cold!"

An explosive curse sounded from the cave, followed by a blasting shot. "Come and get it!" called the outlaw. "You hombres won't be able to git nowhere near me!" And then he sent several more shots through the mouth of the cave, sending José and Phelan running for cover.

Hanley suddenly stopped shooting. "Phelan," he called. "Reckon maybe I was a mite hasty. Reckon yuh can come in—if yuh come without guns and without that there side-kick of yours."

Phelan deliberated for a moment. "What do you think, José?" he asked his Mexican lieutenant. "Shall I go in?"

"No, *amigo!* No!" protested José. "He will keel you, Carey!"

"I don't think so," answered Phelan. And then he called to Hanley: "Throw your gun out, Hanley. Then I'll come."

With a thud, Hanley's gun landed on the ground beside Carey's feet. He scooped it up, tossed it to José, and then walked toward the cave.

Hanley was sitting in the rear, to the side of several money bags. He had a crafty look on his face, but the sheriff disregarded it and walked up to the outlaw.

But before he was able to speak, Hanley lifted a Colt from between his knees and pointed it at Phelan. "All right," he said, rising to his feet, "now we'll get out of here. I'm gonna use you to get past that man of yours. And when we get off this plateau—"

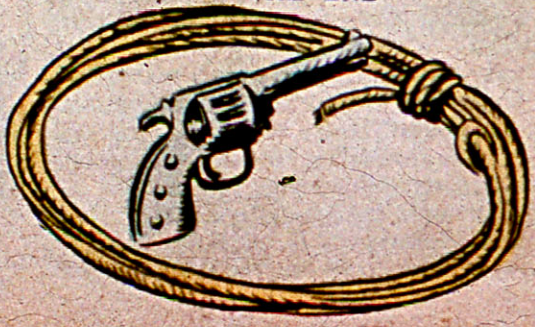
He left the sentence unfinished and leaned over, picking up several of his money-bags. Then he continued: "Let's go! And keep those hands up unless you want to get it sooner."

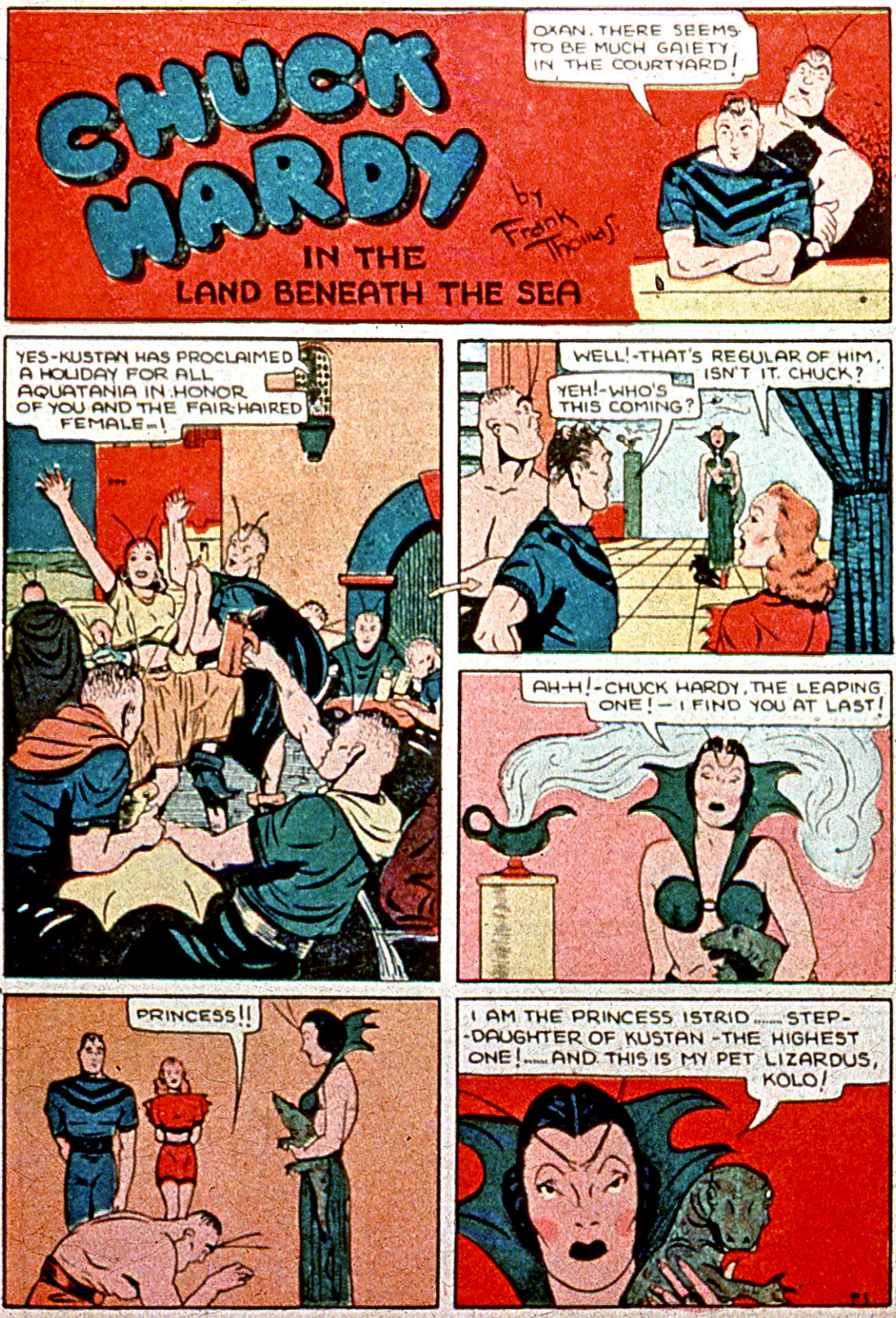
Silently, Phelan started to walk from the cave. He took several steps, and then his right arm flashed swiftly.

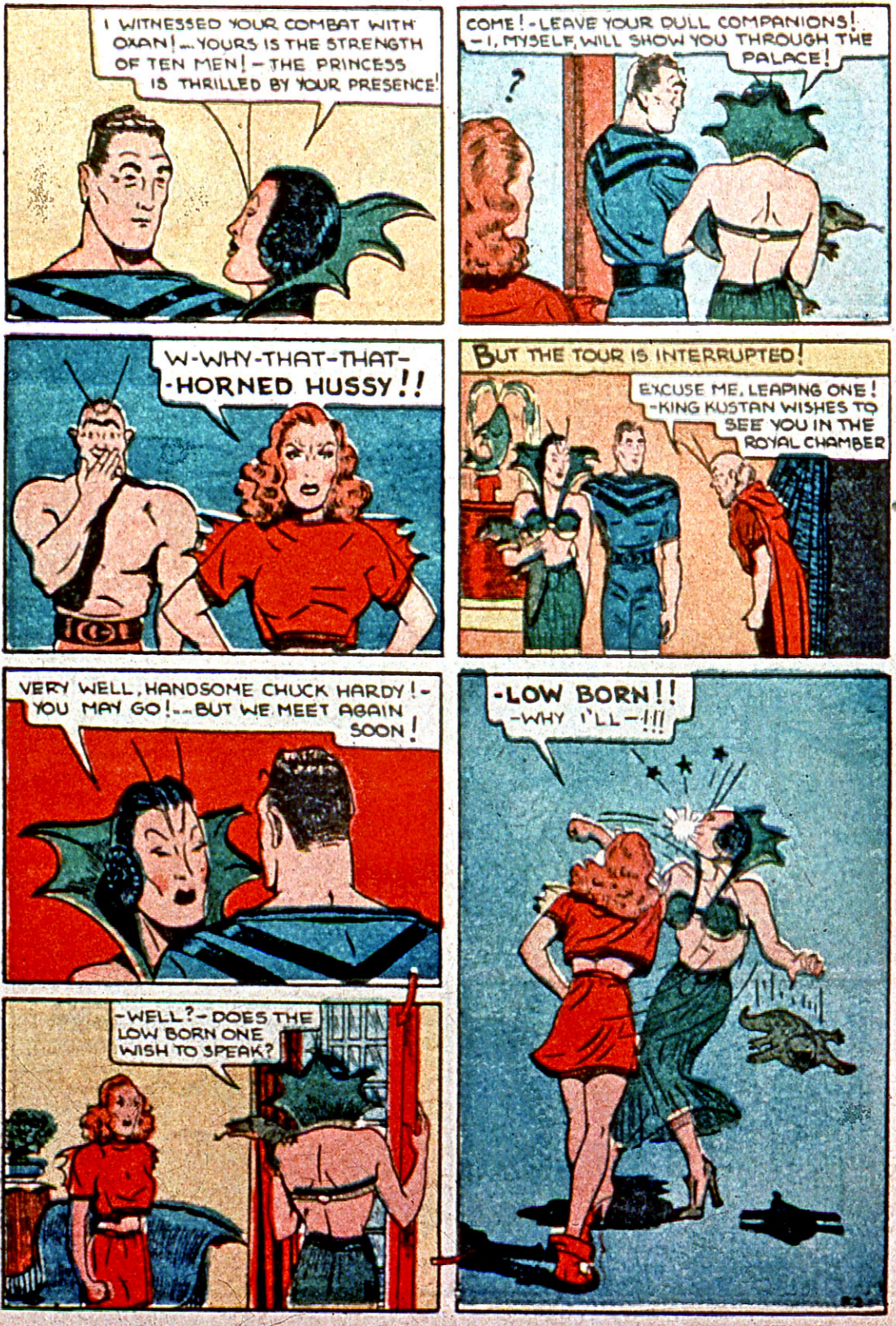
Hanley let out a blood-curdling yell, dropped his gun and money-bags, and grabbed his right wrist. Phelan swiftly pivoted and scooped up the gun, calling to José at the same time. "Looks like I sort of got you, Hanley," he said to the outlaw, reaching over and picking up a stiletto from the ground. I figured that you'd pull something dirty, so I just stuck this knife up my sleeve for luck."

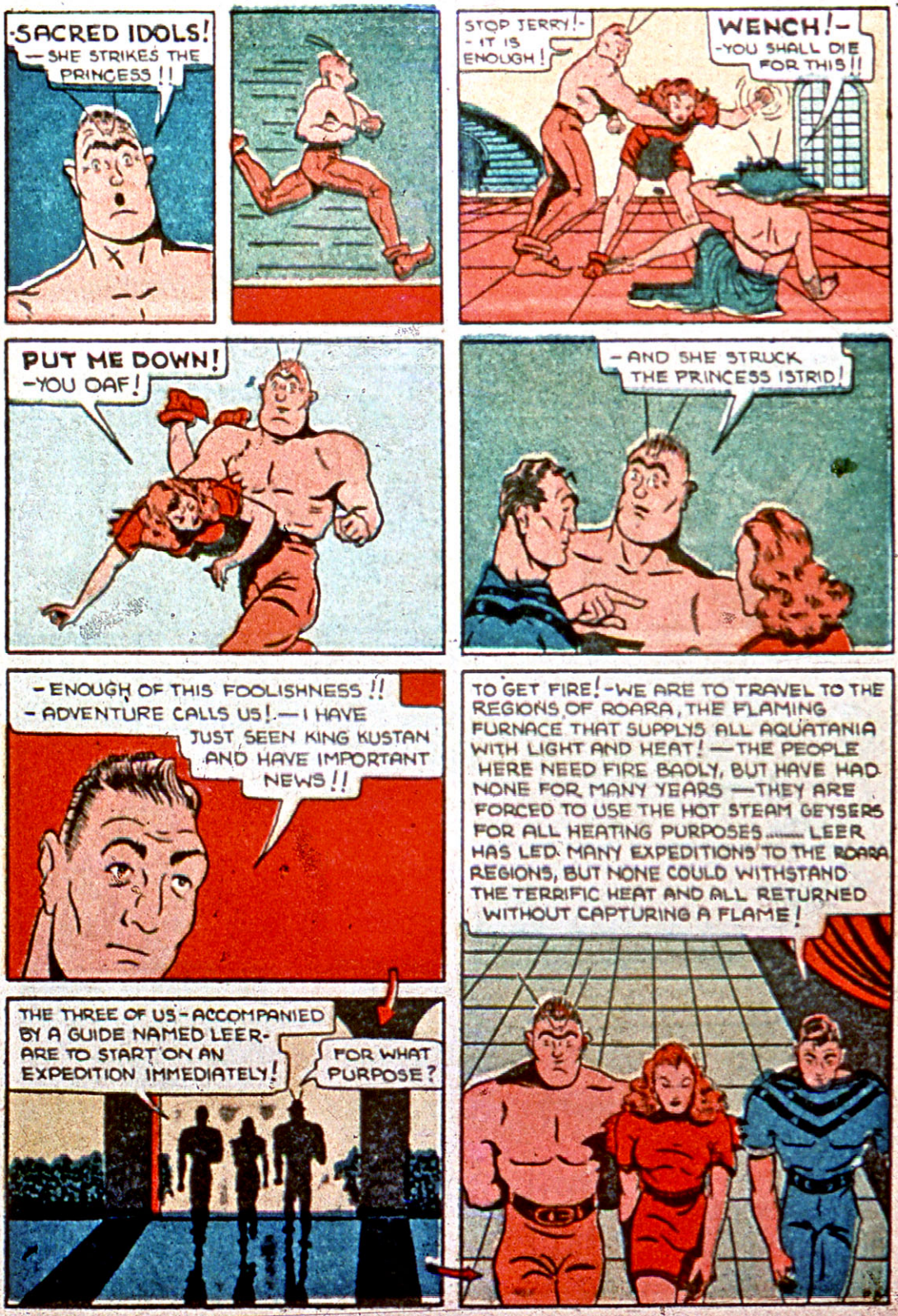
José looked down at the outlaw, who was still holding his arm in pain, and shook his head sadly. "Ah," he said, "I am afraid that they will never learn. Some hombres, I guess, are just plain loco."

THE END

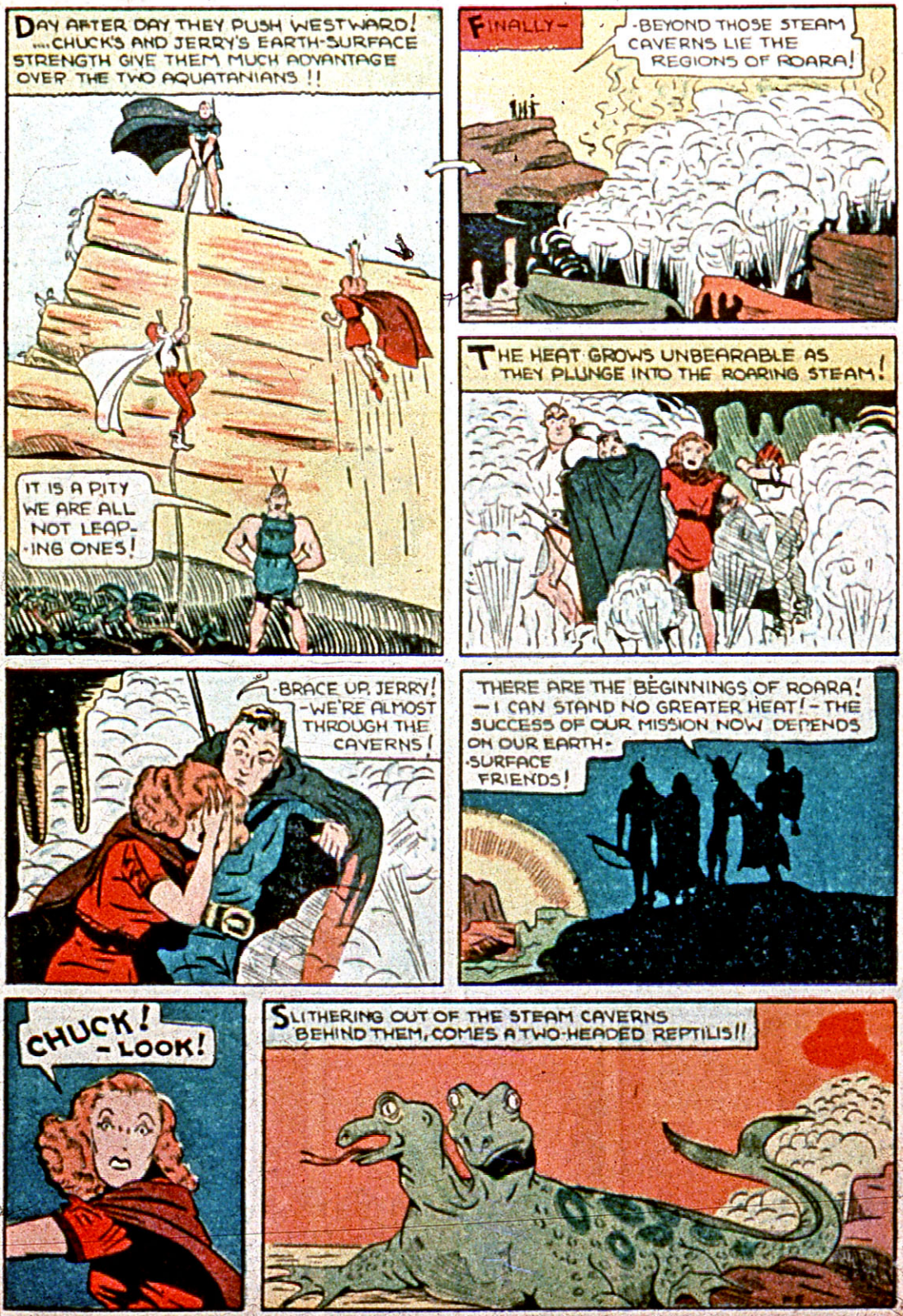


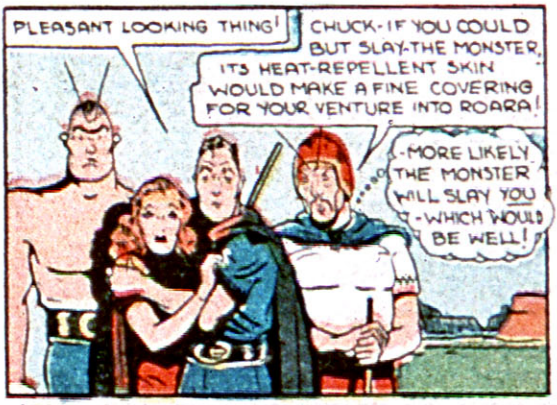

CHUCK HARDY
IN THE LAND BENEATH THE SEA
by Frank Thomas
OXAN, THERE SEEMS TO BE MUCH GAIETY IN THE COURTYARD!
YES-KUSTAN HAS PROCLAIMED A HOLIDAY FOR ALL AQUATANIA IN HONOR OF YOU AND THE FAIR-HAIRED FEMALE-!
WELL!-THAT'S REGULAR OF HIM, ISN'T IT, CHUCK?
YEH!-WHO'S THIS COMING?
AH-H!-CHUCK HARDY, THE LEAPING ONE!-I FIND YOU AT LAST!
PRINCESS!!
I AM THE PRINCESS ISTRID.....STEP--DAUGHTER OF KUSTAN-THE HIGHEST ONE!.....AND THIS IS MY PET LIZARDUS, KOLO!

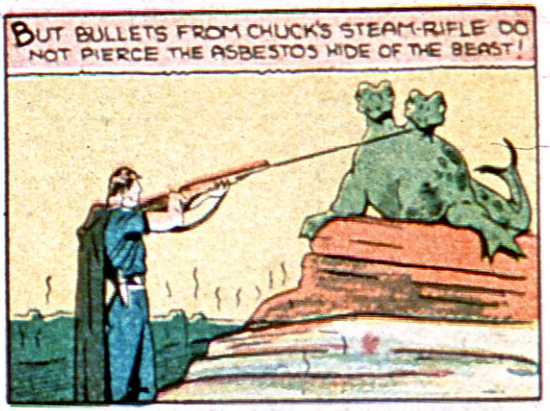

I WITNESSED YOUR COMBAT WITH OXAN!—YOURS IS THE STRENGTH OF TEN MEN!—THE PRINCESS IS THRILLED BY YOUR PRESENCE!
COME!—LEAVE YOUR DULL COMPANIONS!—I, MYSELF, WILL SHOW YOU THROUGH THE PALACE!
?
W-WHY-THAT-THAT-HORNED HUSSY!!
BUT THE TOUR IS INTERRUPTED!
EXCUSE ME, LEAPING ONE!—KING KUSTAN WISHES TO SEE YOU IN THE ROYAL CHAMBER
VERY WELL, HANDSOME CHUCK HARDY!—YOU MAY GO!—BUT WE MEET AGAIN SOON!
-LOW BORN!!—WHY I'LL—!!!
—WELL?—DOES THE LOW BORN ONE WISH TO SPEAK?

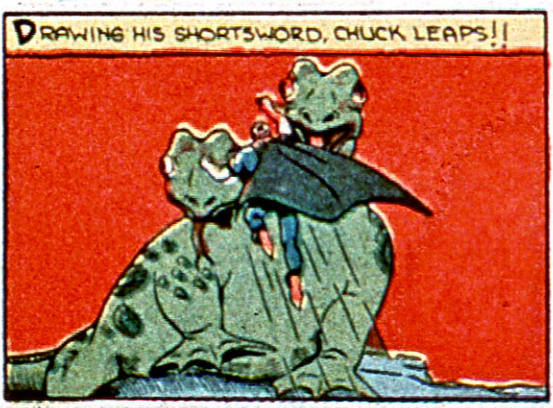

SACRED IDOLS! — SHE STRIKES THE PRINCESS!!
STOP JERRY! - IT IS ENOUGH!
WENCH! - YOU SHALL DIE FOR THIS!!
PUT ME DOWN! - YOU OAF!
- AND SHE STRUCK THE PRINCESS ISTRID!
- ENOUGH OF THIS FOOLISHNESS!! - ADVENTURE CALLS US! — I HAVE JUST SEEN KING KUSTAN AND HAVE IMPORTANT NEWS!!
TO GET FIRE! - WE ARE TO TRAVEL TO THE REGIONS OF ROARA, THE FLAMING FURNACE THAT SUPPLYS ALL AQUATANIA WITH LIGHT AND HEAT! — THE PEOPLE HERE NEED FIRE BADLY, BUT HAVE HAD NONE FOR MANY YEARS — THEY ARE FORCED TO USE THE HOT STEAM GEYSERS FOR ALL HEATING PURPOSES..... LEER HAS LED MANY EXPEDITIONS TO THE ROARA REGIONS, BUT NONE COULD WITHSTAND THE TERRIFIC HEAT AND ALL RETURNED WITHOUT CAPTURING A FLAME!
THE THREE OF US - ACCOMPANIED BY A GUIDE NAMED LEER - ARE TO START ON AN EXPEDITION IMMEDIATELY!
FOR WHAT PURPOSE?

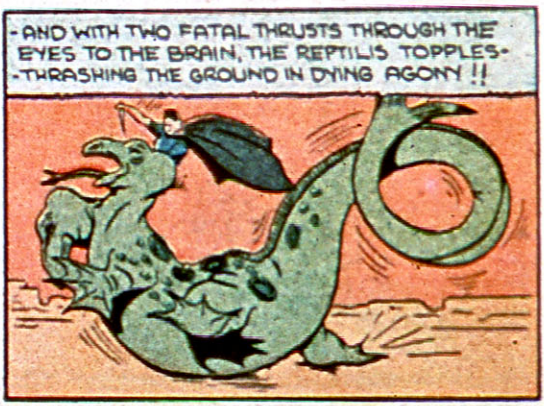

MEANWHILE - IN THE QUARTERS OF THE FURIOUS PRINCESS ISTRID!
YOU SENT FOR ME, PRINCESS?
THAT BANDAGE .... - YOU MET WITH AN ACCIDENT, PRINCESS?
KEEP YOUR QUESTIONS TO YOURSELF, LEER! - SIT DOWN!
HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO OWN THESE, LEER?
GOLD!
YES, GOLD! - ENOUGH TO MAKE A POOR SOLDIER RICH FOR A LIFE TIME!
- IT IS YOURS - IF -
IF-?
- IF CHUCK HARDY AND THE BLOND FEMALE NEVER RETURN FROM THE REGIONS OF ROARA!
....YOU ARE TO ACCOMPANY THEM, ARE YOU NOT?
THAT IS RIGHT, PRINCESS!
- THEN EARNING THIS GOLD SHOULD BE SIMPLE FOR YOU! - IT WILL BE YOURS WHEN YOU RETURN - ALONE!! - IF THE EARTH-SURFACE CREATURES SHOULD DIE AN ESPECIALLY HORRIBLE DEATH, I WILL ADD A BONUS IN SILVER!
IT SHALL BE DONE!
THE FOLLOWING DAY FINDS THE LITTLE EXPEDITION WELL ON ITS WAY.....
YONDER, TO THE WEST, LIES OUR GOAL!


DAY AFTER DAY THEY PUSH WESTWARD! ....CHUCK'S AND JERRY'S EARTH-SURFACE STRENGTH GIVE THEM MUCH ADVANTAGE OVER THE TWO AQUATANIANS !!
IT IS A PITY WE ARE ALL NOT LEAP-ING ONES!
FINALLY-
-BEYOND THOSE STEAM CAVERNS LIE THE REGIONS OF ROARA!
THE HEAT GROWS UNBEARABLE AS THEY PLUNGE INTO THE ROARING STEAM!
-BRACE UP, JERRY! -WE'RE ALMOST THROUGH THE CAVERNS!
THERE ARE THE BEGINNINGS OF ROARA! —I CAN STAND NO GREATER HEAT! - THE SUCCESS OF OUR MISSION NOW DEPENDS ON OUR EARTH-SURFACE FRIENDS!
CHUCK! -LOOK!
SLITHERING OUT OF THE STEAM CAVERNS BEHIND THEM, COMES A TWO-HEADED REPTILIS!!


PLEASANT LOOKING THING!
CHUCK-IF YOU COULD BUT SLAY THE MONSTER, ITS HEAT-REPELLENT SKIN WOULD MAKE A FINE COVERING FOR YOUR VENTURE INTO ROARA!
-MORE LIKELY THE MONSTER WILL SLAY YOU -WHICH WOULD BE WELL!


BUT BULLETS FROM CHUCK'S STEAM-RIFLE DO NOT PIERCE THE ASBESTOS HIDE OF THE BEAST!


DRAWING HIS SHORTSWORD, CHUCK LEAPS!!


-AND WITH TWO FATAL THRUSTS THROUGH THE EYES TO THE BRAIN, THE REPTILIS TOPPLES- -THRASHING THE GROUND IN DYING AGONY !!

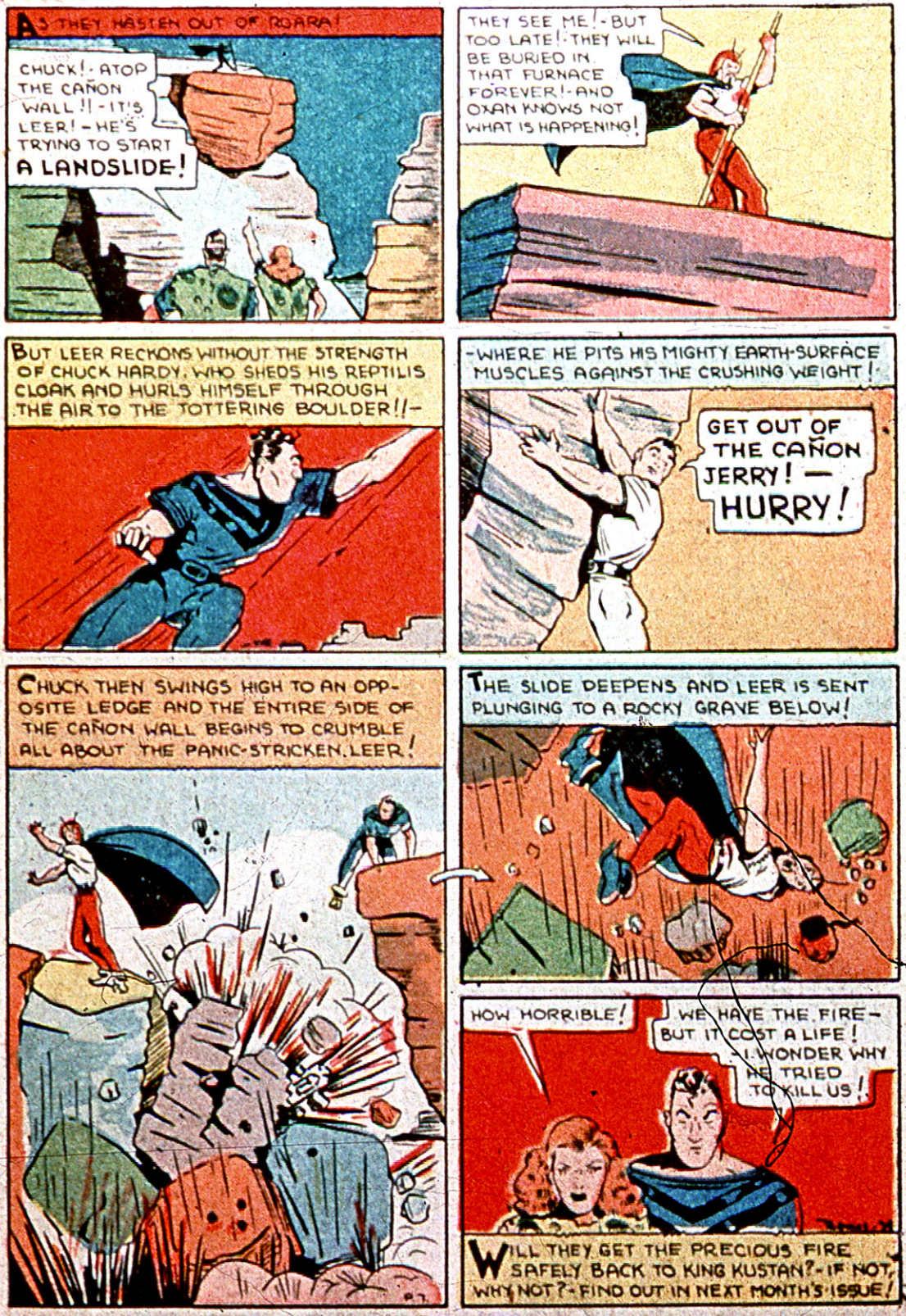

-AH, PRINCESS ISTRID!-MY FIRST ATTEMPT HAS FAILED!-BUT I SHALL HAVE MY GOLD YET! -AND MY BONUS TOO!
OXAN SKINS PART OF THE DEAD REPTILIS AND THE ASBESTOS HIDE IS FASHIONED INTO CRUDE CLOAKS FOR CHUCK'S AND JERRY'S DANGEROUS TRIP INTO THE MOLTEN MOUTH OF ROARA!


-WE'LL REJOIN YOU SHORTLY! -AND WHEN WE DO — -THIS LANTERN WILL BE LIGHTED!
GOOD LUCK!


THIS HEAT IS BLISTERING!
COURAGE! -I CAN SEE FLAMES AT THE END OF THIS CANON!


CHUCK FEEDS HIS TORCH TO THE GREEDY FLAMES!


SUCCESS!
HURRY! -CHUCK- I FEEL FAINT!


AS THEY HASTEN OUT OF ROARA!
CHUCK! - ATOP THE CAÑON WALL!! - IT'S LEER! - HE'S TRYING TO START A LANDSLIDE!
THEY SEE ME! - BUT TOO LATE! - THEY WILL BE BURIED IN THAT FURNACE FOREVER! - AND OXAN KNOWS NOT WHAT IS HAPPENING!
BUT LEER RECKONS WITHOUT THE STRENGTH OF CHUCK HARDY, WHO SHEDS HIS REPTILIS CLOAK AND HURLS HIMSELF THROUGH THE AIR TO THE TOTTERING BOULDER!! -
-WHERE HE PITS HIS MIGHTY EARTH-SURFACE MUSCLES AGAINST THE CRUSHING WEIGHT!
GET OUT OF THE CAÑON JERRY! — HURRY!
CHUCK THEN SWINGS HIGH TO AN OPPOSITE LEDGE AND THE ENTIRE SIDE OF THE CAÑON WALL BEGINS TO CRUMBLE ALL ABOUT THE PANIC-STRICKEN LEER!
THE SLIDE DEEPENS AND LEER IS SENT PLUNGING TO A ROCKY GRAVE BELOW!
HOW HORRIBLE!
WE HAVE THE FIRE — BUT IT COST A LIFE! - I WONDER WHY HE TRIED TO KILL US!
WILL THEY GET THE PRECIOUS FIRE SAFELY BACK TO KING KUSTAN? - IF NOT, WHY NOT? - FIND OUT IN NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE!

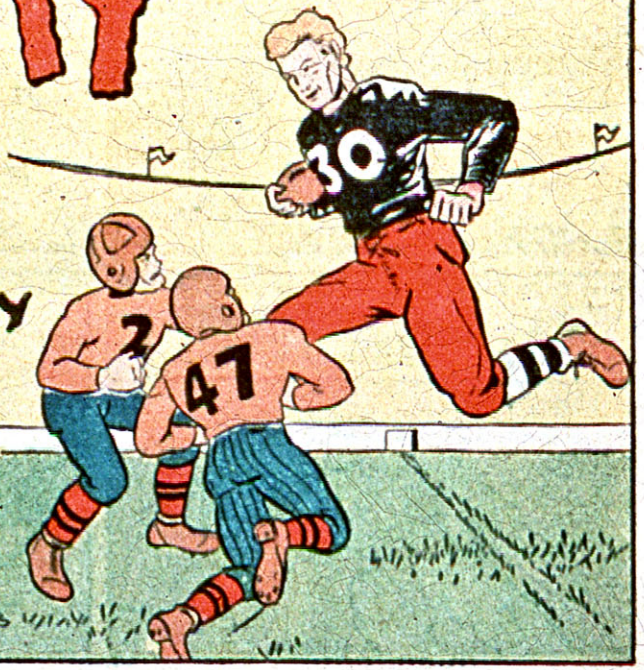
MIGHTY MAN

AND THE FOOTBALL MYSTERY

STORY SUGGESTED BY
FRANK FILCHOCK
(WASHINGTON REDSKIN HALFBACK)
ILLUSTRATED BY
MARTIN FILCHOCK

— NOTE —

THE *MIGHTY MAN* IS A TWELVE FOOT SUPER-GIANT WHO WAS FOUND IN A HIDDEN VALLEY IN CALIFORNIA - HE LEAVES THE VALLEY TO WAGE A WAR ON CRIMINALS. TO DATE BUT FEW PEOPLE HAVE HEARD OF THE *MIGHTY MAN* - FOR REASONS OF HIS OWN HE WISHES TO BE KEPT IN THE BACKGROUND.



COLLEGE FOOTBALL THREATENED
WESTERN COLLEGE CHARGED WITH UNFAIR TACTICS!
STADIUM WELL GUARDED!
ELEVEN IRON MEN TOO STRONG FOR COMPETITION
MYSTERY ELEVEN
NO SUBSTITUTES USED OR EVEN SEEN
SEVEN FOOT GIANTS

OUR NEW STORY OPENS IN THE PROFESSORS OFFICE IN DENVER!

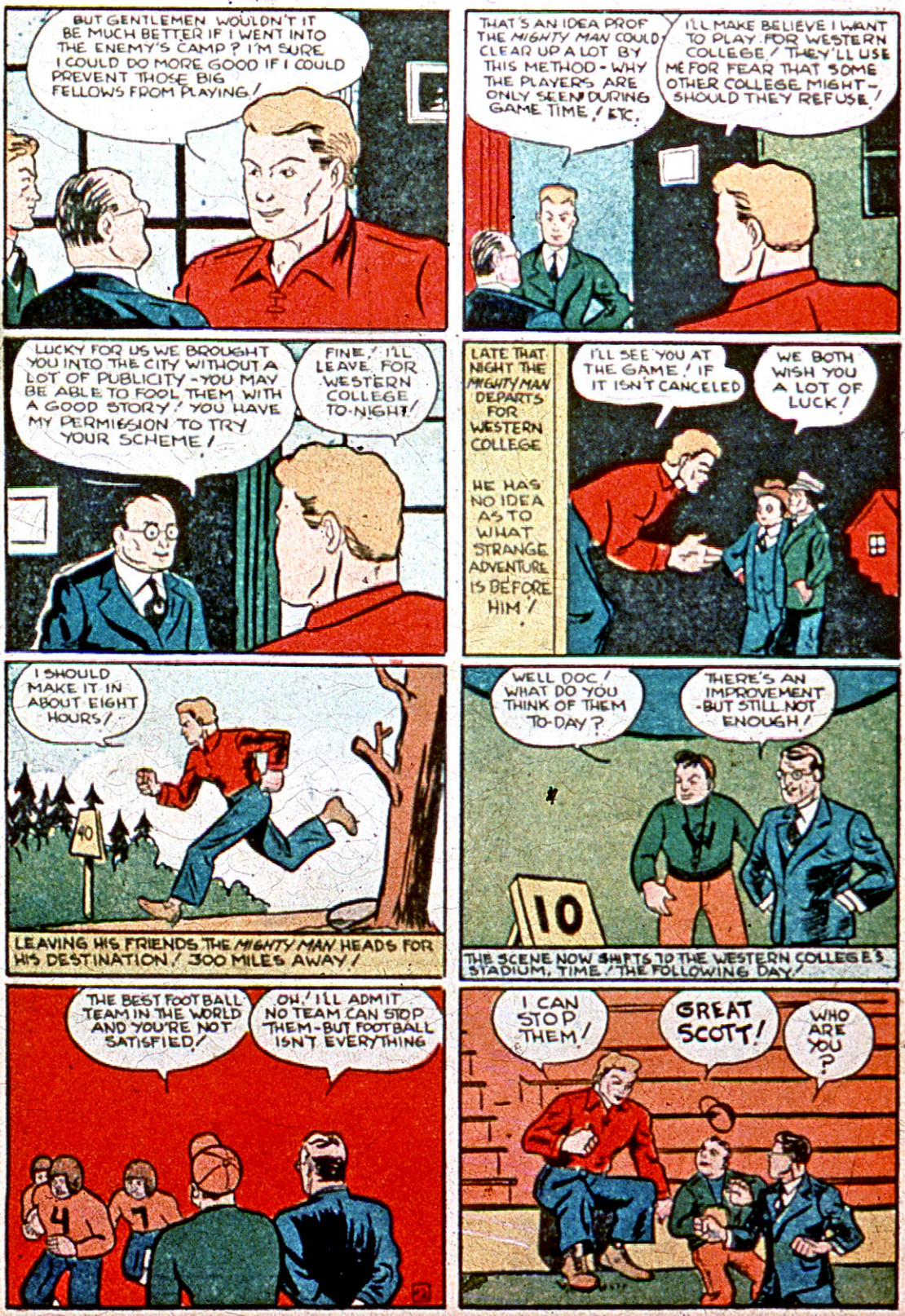
THAT'S THE STORY! EVERY ONE OF THE WESTERN COLLEGE PLAYERS IS A BIG SEVEN FOOT GIANT! UNLESS SOMETHING IS DONE COLLEGE FOOTBALL IS DOOMED!

WHERE DID THEY GET THESE BIG FELLOWS - HAVE ANY IDEA?

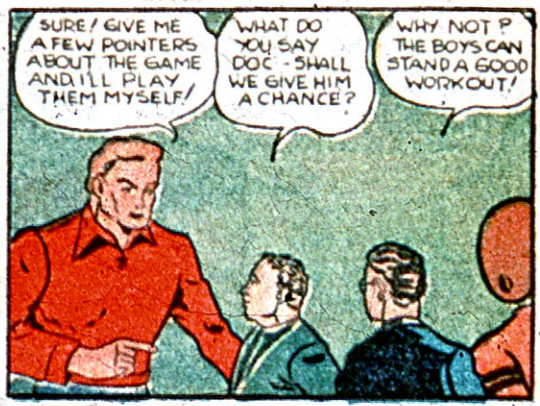
NO ONE KNOWS! THEY'RE NEVER SEEN BEFORE OR AFTER A GAME THESE BRUTES DEFEATED TECH 88 TO 0 AND STATE 127 TO 0. WE'RE NEXT IN LINE! I'M AFRAID TO THINK WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO OUR BOYS - I HONESTLY FEAR FOR THEIR SAFETY!

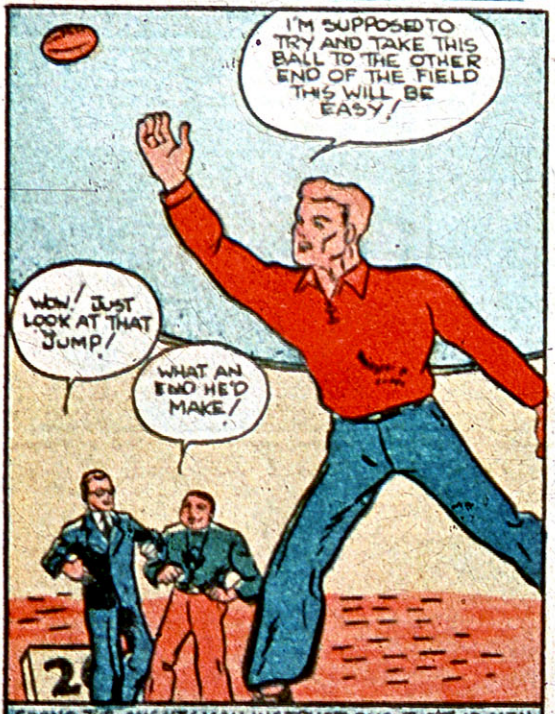
SAY! COULDN'T WE GET THE *MIGHTY MAN* TO PLAY FOR US?

ONLY IF HE COULD PASS THE EXAMS AND ENROLL AS A STUDENT - WE HAVE NO FRESHMAN RULE HERE!

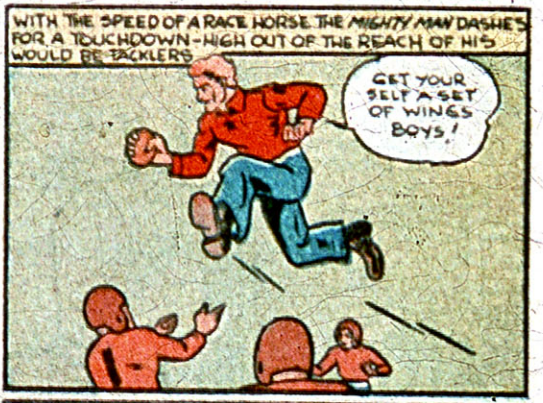

BUT GENTLEMEN WOULDN'T IT BE MUCH BETTER IF I WENT INTO THE ENEMY'S CAMP? I'M SURE I COULD DO MORE GOOD IF I COULD PREVENT THOSE BIG FELLOWS FROM PLAYING!
THAT'S AN IDEA PROF THE MIGHTY MAN COULD CLEAR UP A LOT BY THIS METHOD - WHY THE PLAYERS ARE ONLY SEEN DURING GAME TIME! ETC.
I'LL MAKE BELIEVE I WANT TO PLAY FOR WESTERN COLLEGE! THEY'LL USE ME FOR FEAR THAT SOME OTHER COLLEGE MIGHT - SHOULD THEY REFUSE!
LUCKY FOR US WE BROUGHT YOU INTO THE CITY WITHOUT A LOT OF PUBLICITY - YOU MAY BE ABLE TO FOOL THEM WITH A GOOD STORY! YOU HAVE MY PERMISSION TO TRY YOUR SCHEME!
FINE! I'LL LEAVE FOR WESTERN COLLEGE TO-NIGHT!
LATE THAT NIGHT THE MIGHTY MAN DEPARTS FOR WESTERN COLLEGE
HE HAS NO IDEA AS TO WHAT STRANGE ADVENTURE IS BEFORE HIM!
I'LL SEE YOU AT THE GAME! IF IT ISN'T CANCELED
WE BOTH WISH YOU A LOT OF LUCK!
I SHOULD MAKE IT IN ABOUT EIGHT HOURS!
40
LEAVING HIS FRIENDS THE MIGHTY MAN HEADS FOR HIS DESTINATION! 300 MILES AWAY!
WELL DOC! WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THEM TO-DAY?
THERE'S AN IMPROVEMENT - BUT STILL NOT ENOUGH!
10
THE SCENE NOW SHIFTS TO THE WESTERN COLLEGE'S STADIUM, TIME! THE FOLLOWING DAY!
THE BEST FOOTBALL TEAM IN THE WORLD AND YOU'RE NOT SATISFIED!
OH! I'LL ADMIT NO TEAM CAN STOP THEM - BUT FOOTBALL ISN'T EVERYTHING
I CAN STOP THEM!
GREAT SCOTT!
WHO ARE YOU?

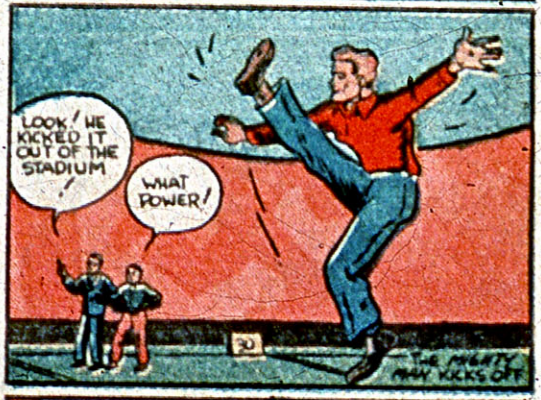






GIVING THE *MIGHTY MAN* INSTRUCTIONS THE TWO MEN GO TO THE SIDELINES TO WATCH ONE OF THE STRANGEST FOOTBALL GAMES EVER WITNESSED BY MAN.

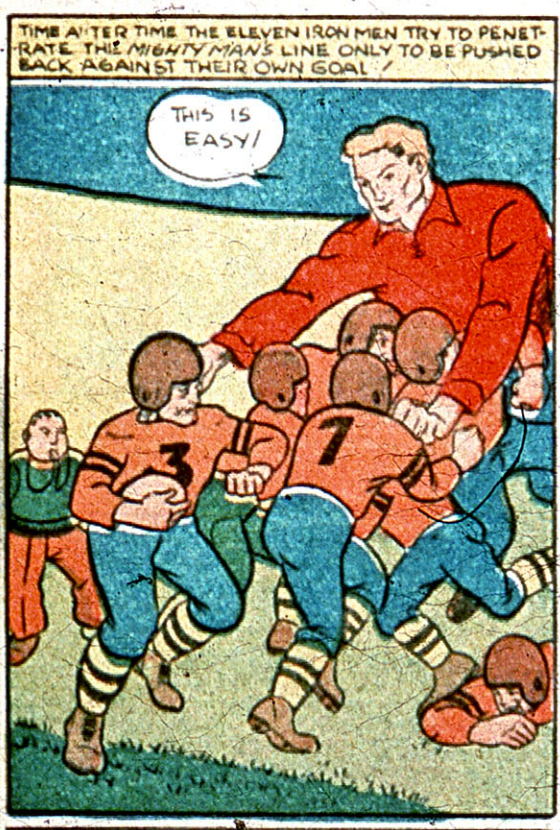




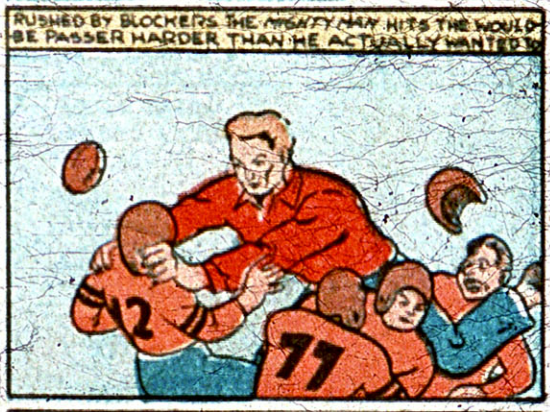


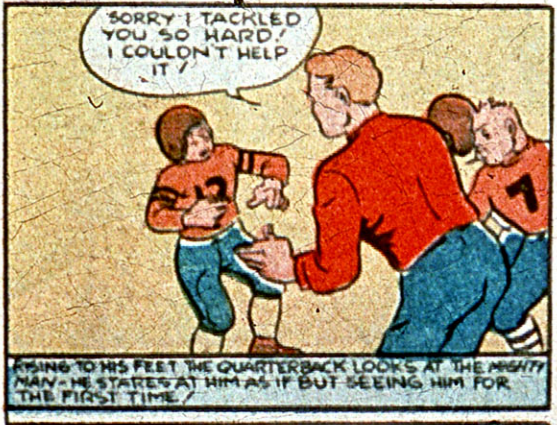


A NEW BALL IS SECURED AND PLACED UPON THE TWENTY YARD LINE - THEY LINE UP! ELEVEN AGAINST ONE!

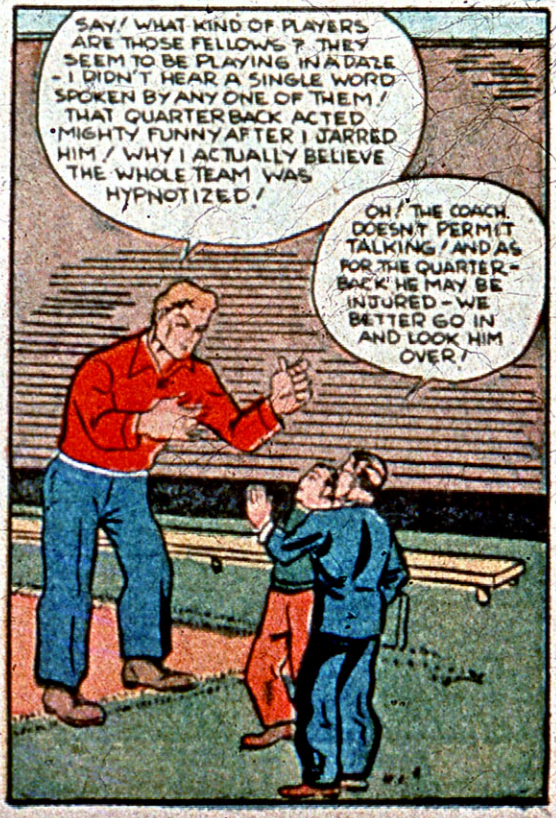

TIME AFTER TIME THE ELEVEN IRON MEN TRY TO PENETRATE THE MIGHTY MAN'S LINE ONLY TO BE PUSHED BACK AGAINST THEIR OWN GOAL!
THIS IS EASY!

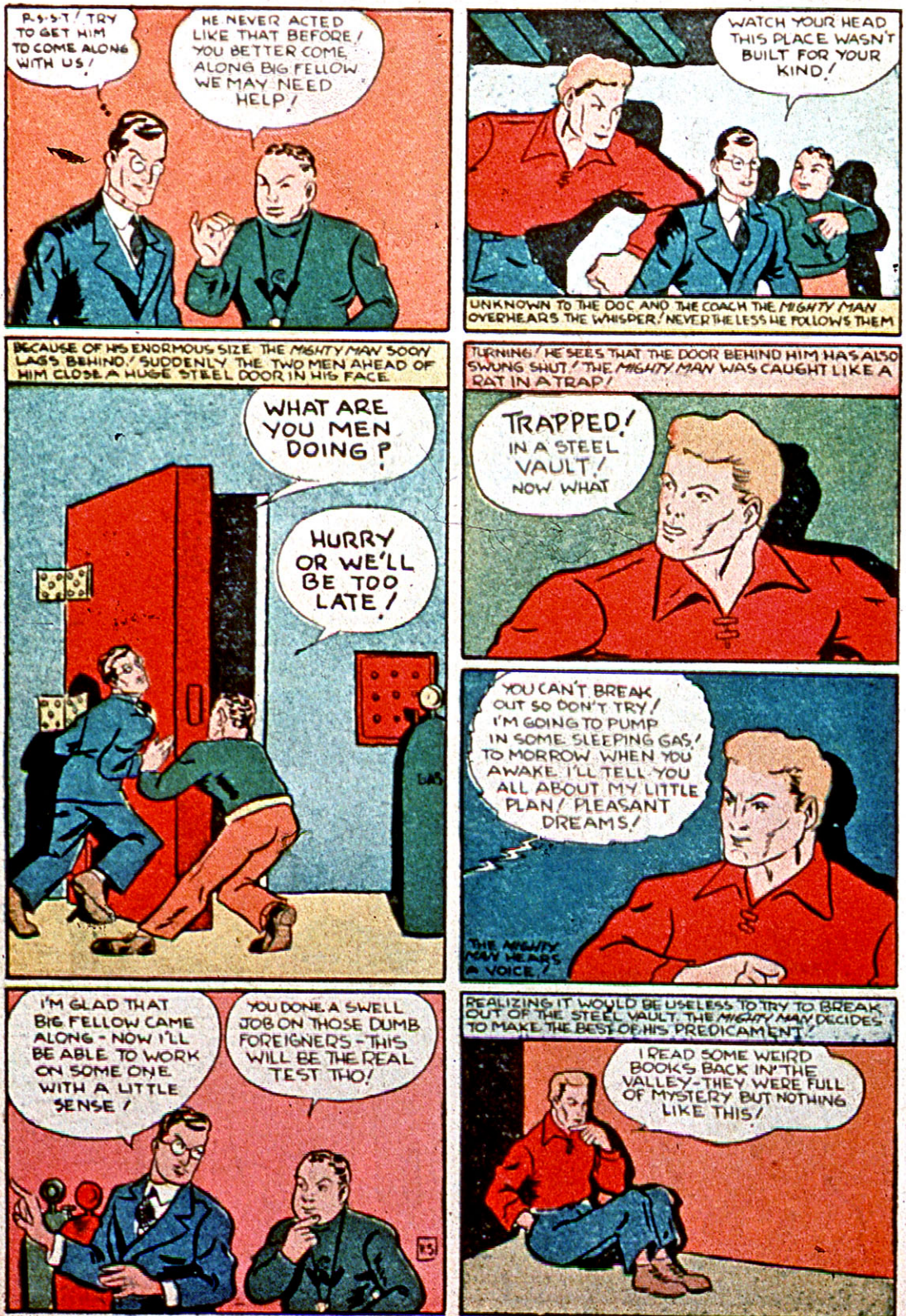

IN DESPERATION THE QUARTERBACK DROPS BACK TO TRY A PASS!

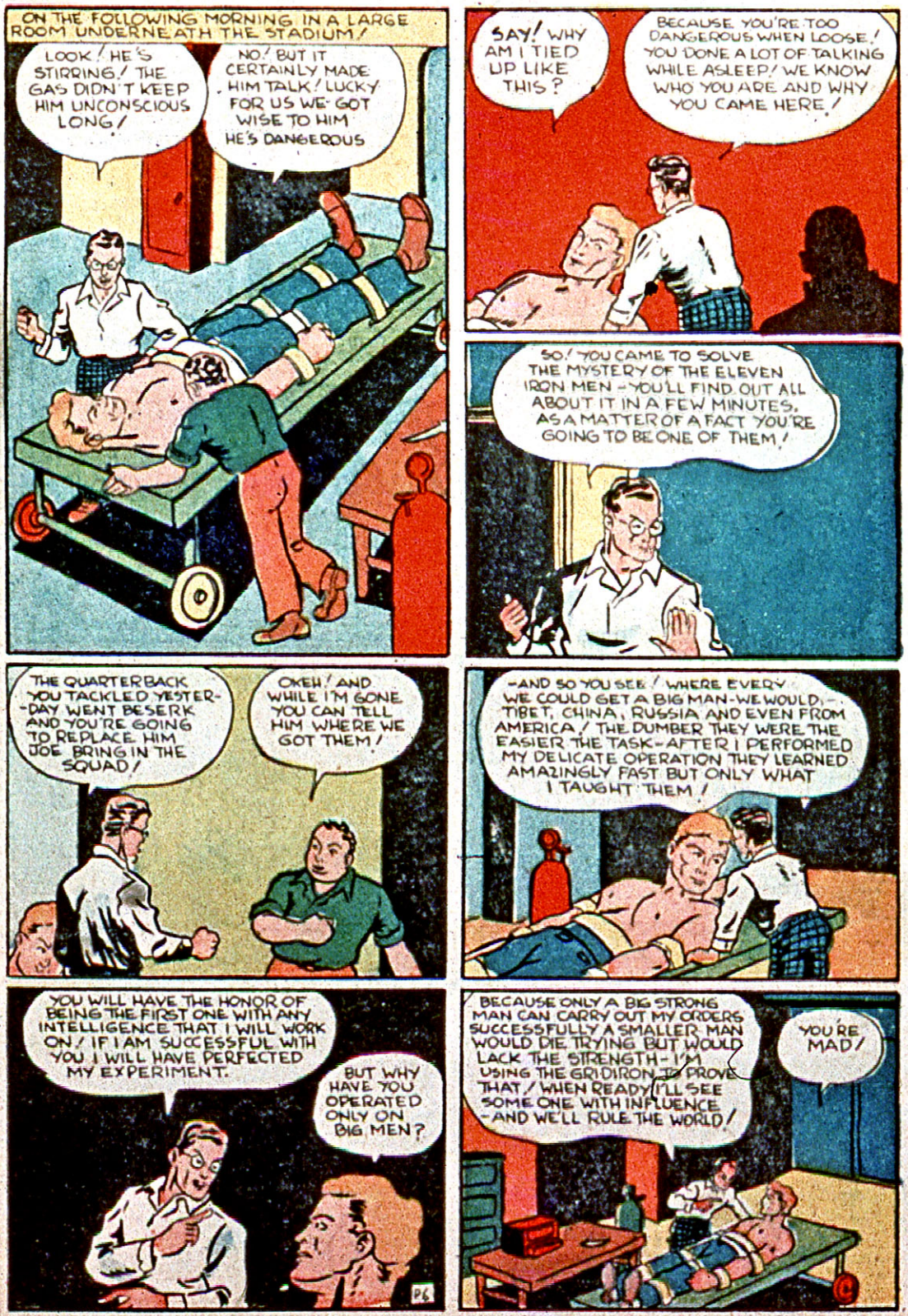

RUSHED BY BLOCKERS THE MIGHTY MAN HITS THE WOULD BE PASSER HARDER THAN HE ACTUALLY WANTED TO

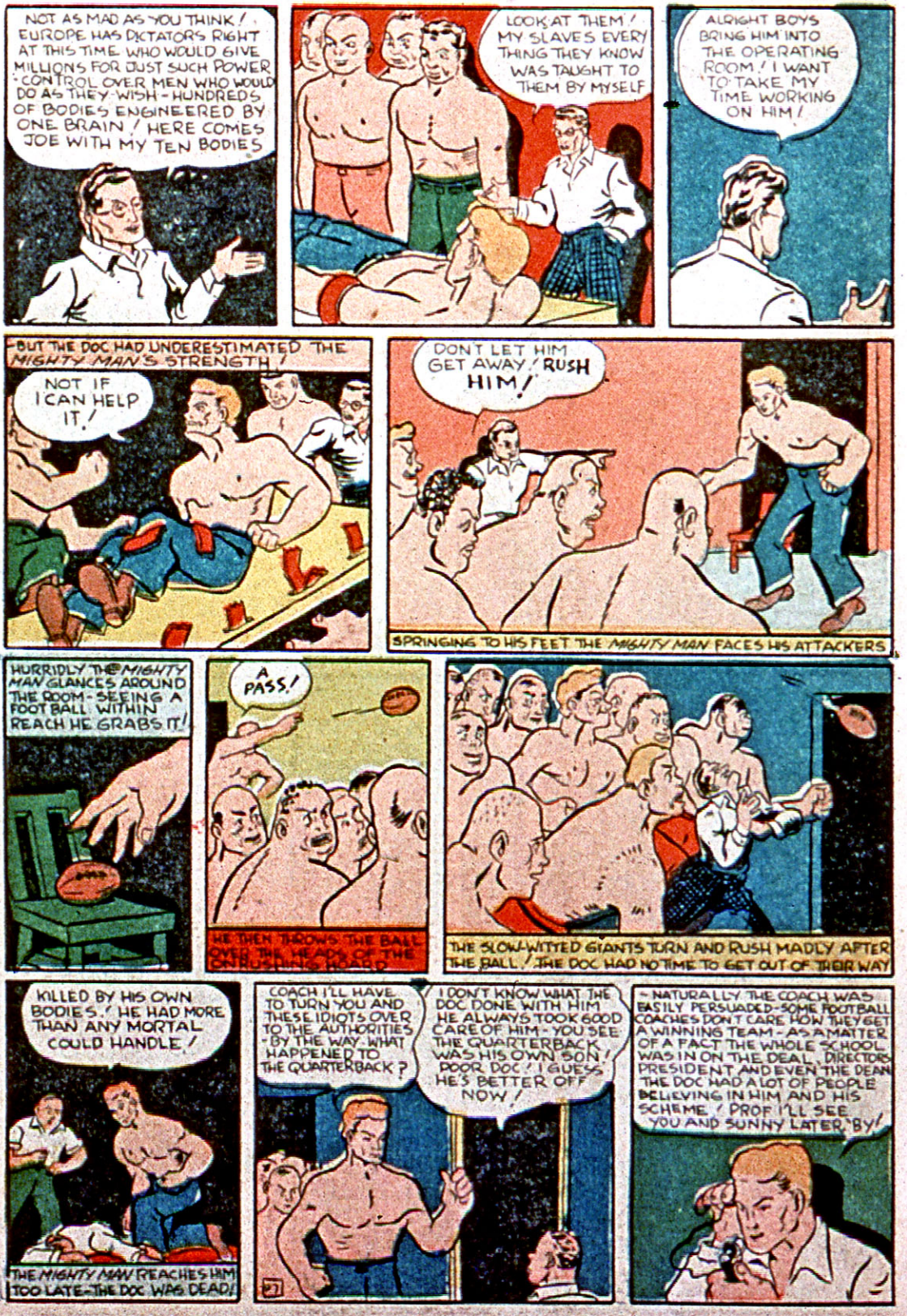

SORRY I TACKLED YOU SO HARD! I COULDN'T HELP IT!
RISING TO HIS FEET THE QUARTERBACK LOOKS AT THE MIGHTY MAN - HE STARES AT HIM AS IF BUT SEEING HIM FOR THE FIRST TIME!


WHAT'S WRONG?
BUT INSTEAD OF ANSWERING THE MIGHTY MAN - THE DAZED PLAYER SHRIEKS AND DASHES OFF THE FIELD THE OTHER PLAYERS FOLLOW HIM!


SAY! WHAT KIND OF PLAYERS ARE THOSE FELLOWS? THEY SEEM TO BE PLAYING IN A DAZE - I DIDN'T HEAR A SINGLE WORD SPOKEN BY ANY ONE OF THEM! THAT QUARTERBACK ACTED MIGHTY FUNNY AFTER I JARRED HIM! WHY I ACTUALLY BELIEVE THE WHOLE TEAM WAS HYPNOTIZED!
OH! THE COACH DOESN'T PERMIT TALKING! AND AS FOR THE QUARTERBACK HE MAY BE INJURED - WE BETTER GO IN AND LOOK HIM OVER!


P-S-S-T! TRY TO GET HIM TO COME ALONG WITH US!
HE NEVER ACTED LIKE THAT BEFORE! YOU BETTER COME ALONG BIG FELLOW WE MAY NEED HELP!
WATCH YOUR HEAD THIS PLACE WASN'T BUILT FOR YOUR KIND!
UNKNOWN TO THE DOC AND THE COACH THE MIGHTY MAN OVERHEARS THE WHISPER! NEVERTHELESS HE FOLLOWS THEM
BECAUSE OF HIS ENORMOUS SIZE THE MIGHTY MAN SOON LAGS BEHIND! SUDDENLY THE TWO MEN AHEAD OF HIM CLOSE A HUGE STEEL DOOR IN HIS FACE
WHAT ARE YOU MEN DOING?
HURRY OR WE'LL BE TOO LATE!
GAS
TURNING! HE SEES THAT THE DOOR BEHIND HIM HAS ALSO SWUNG SHUT! THE MIGHTY MAN WAS CAUGHT LIKE A RAT IN A TRAP!
TRAPPED! IN A STEEL VAULT! NOW WHAT
YOU CAN'T BREAK OUT SO DON'T TRY! I'M GOING TO PUMP IN SOME SLEEPING GAS! TO MORROW WHEN YOU AWAKE I'LL TELL YOU ALL ABOUT MY LITTLE PLAN! PLEASANT DREAMS!
THE MIGHTY MAN HEARS A VOICE!
I'M GLAD THAT BIG FELLOW CAME ALONG - NOW I'LL BE ABLE TO WORK ON SOME ONE WITH A LITTLE SENSE!
YOU DONE A SWELL JOB ON THOSE DUMB FOREIGNERS - THIS WILL BE THE REAL TEST THO!
REALIZING IT WOULD BE USELESS TO TRY TO BREAK OUT OF THE STEEL VAULT THE MIGHTY MAN DECIDES TO MAKE THE BEST OF HIS PREDICAMENT!
I READ SOME WEIRD BOOKS BACK IN THE VALLEY - THEY WERE FULL OF MYSTERY BUT NOTHING LIKE THIS!


ON THE FOLLOWING MORNING IN A LARGE ROOM UNDERNEATH THE STADIUM/
LOOK! HE'S STIRRING/ THE GAS DIDN'T KEEP HIM UNCONSCIOUS LONG/
NO/ BUT IT CERTAINLY MADE HIM TALK/ LUCKY FOR US WE GOT WISE TO HIM HE'S DANGEROUS
SAY! WHY AM I TIED UP LIKE THIS?
BECAUSE YOU'RE TOO DANGEROUS WHEN LOOSE/ YOU DONE A LOT OF TALKING WHILE ASLEEP/ WE KNOW WHO YOU ARE AND WHY YOU CAME HERE/
SO/ YOU CAME TO SOLVE THE MYSTERY OF THE ELEVEN IRON MEN - YOU'LL FIND OUT ALL ABOUT IT IN A FEW MINUTES, AS A MATTER OF A FACT YOU'RE GOING TO BE ONE OF THEM/
THE QUARTERBACK YOU TACKLED YESTERDAY WENT BESERK AND YOU'RE GOING TO REPLACE HIM JOE BRING IN THE SQUAD/
OKEH/ AND WHILE I'M GONE YOU CAN TELL HIM WHERE WE GOT THEM/
-AND SO YOU SEE/ WHERE EVERY WE COULD GET A BIG MAN-WE WOULD- TIBET, CHINA, RUSSIA AND EVEN FROM AMERICA/ THE DUMBER THEY WERE THE EASIER THE TASK-AFTER I PERFORMED MY DELICATE OPERATION THEY LEARNED AMAZINGLY FAST BUT ONLY WHAT I TAUGHT THEM/
YOU WILL HAVE THE HONOR OF BEING THE FIRST ONE WITH ANY INTELLIGENCE THAT I WILL WORK ON/ IF I AM SUCCESSFUL WITH YOU I WILL HAVE PERFECTED MY EXPERIMENT.
BUT WHY HAVE YOU OPERATED ONLY ON BIG MEN?
BECAUSE ONLY A BIG STRONG MAN CAN CARRY OUT MY ORDERS SUCCESSFULLY A SMALLER MAN WOULD DIE TRYING BUT WOULD LACK THE STRENGTH - I'M USING THE GRIDIRON TO PROVE THAT/ WHEN READY I'LL SEE SOME ONE WITH INFLUENCE -AND WE'LL RULE THE WORLD/
YOU'RE MAD/


NOT AS MAD AS YOU THINK! EUROPE HAS DICTATORS RIGHT AT THIS TIME. WHO WOULD GIVE MILLIONS FOR JUST SUCH POWER - CONTROL OVER MEN WHO WOULD DO AS THEY WISH - HUNDREDS OF BODIES ENGINEERED BY ONE BRAIN! HERE COMES JOE WITH MY TEN BODIES
LOOK AT THEM! MY SLAVES EVERY THING THEY KNOW WAS TAUGHT TO THEM BY MYSELF
ALRIGHT BOYS BRING HIM INTO THE OPERATING ROOM! I WANT TO TAKE MY TIME WORKING ON HIM!
BUT THE DOC HAD UNDERESTIMATED THE MIGHTY MAN'S STRENGTH!
NOT IF I CAN HELP IT!
DONT LET HIM GET AWAY! RUSH HIM!
SPRINGING TO HIS FEET THE MIGHTY MAN FACES HIS ATTACKERS
HURRIDLY THE MIGHTY MAN GLANCES AROUND THE ROOM - SEEING A FOOT BALL WITHIN REACH HE GRABS IT!
A PASS!
HE THEN THROWS THE BALL OVER THE HEADS OF THE ONRUSHING HORDE
THE SLOW-WITTED GIANTS TURN AND RUSH MADLY AFTER THE BALL! THE DOC HAD NO TIME TO GET OUT OF THEIR WAY
KILLED BY HIS OWN BODIES! HE HAD MORE THAN ANY MORTAL COULD HANDLE!
THE MIGHTY MAN REACHES HIM TOO LATE - THE DOC WAS DEAD!
COACH I'LL HAVE TO TURN YOU AND THESE IDIOTS OVER TO THE AUTHORITIES - BY THE WAY WHAT HAPPENED TO THE QUARTERBACK?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE DOC DONE WITH HIM HE ALWAYS TOOK GOOD CARE OF HIM - YOU SEE THE QUARTERBACK WAS HIS OWN SON! POOR DOC! I GUESS HE'S BETTER OFF NOW!
- NATURALLY THE COACH WAS EASILY PERSUADED - SOME FOOTBALL COACHES DON'T CARE HOW THEY GET A WINNING TEAM - AS A MATTER OF A FACT THE WHOLE SCHOOL WAS IN ON THE DEAL, DIRECTORS PRESIDENT AND EVEN THE DEAN THE DOC HAD A LOT OF PEOPLE BELIEVING IN HIM AND HIS SCHEME. / PROF I'LL SEE YOU AND SUNNY LATER, BY!

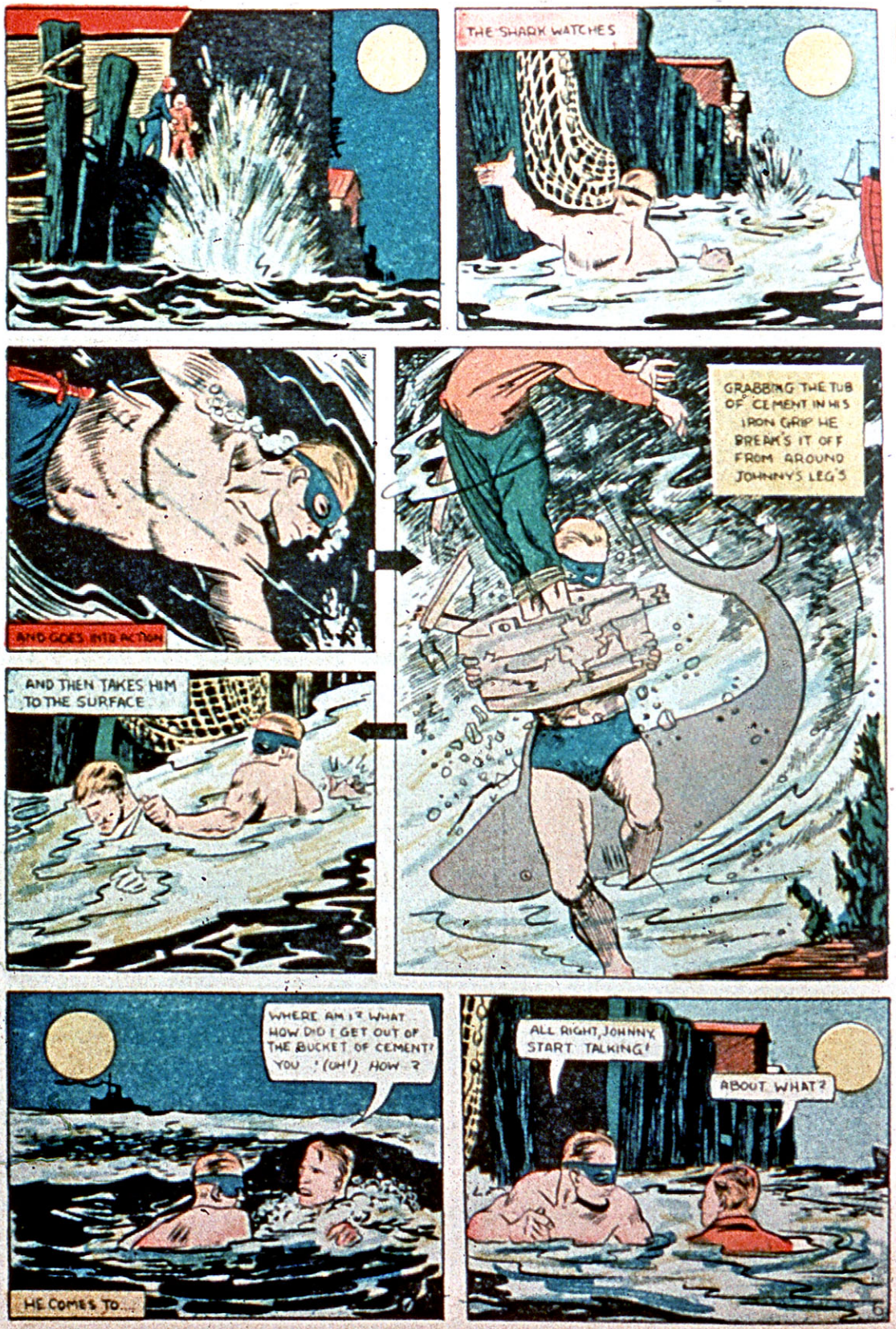

THE SHARK
by Lew Glanz
THE SHARK IS AN AMAZING UNDER-SEA CREATURE SERVING JUSTICE, HAS WEBBED HANDS AND FEET; HE IS THE SON OF A MERMAID AND FATHER NEPTUNE. HE IS ENDOWED WITH ENORMOUS STRENGTH WHICH HE USES TO PROTECT HIS PEOPLE IN THE SEA. HE USES HIS HYPNOTIC POWERS THROUGH A SUPER-VISION SET..... HIS MOST FAITHFUL FRIENDS, THE SHARKS
ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF A FISHING TOWN TROUBLES ABOUT
HELLO-O KIRK! THE BOSS SENT US OVER TO TALK BUSINESS WITH YOU!!
WE REPRESENT THE BROCKAWAY FISHERMANS UNION, AN WE WANT YOU AS A MEMBER, SELL WHEN WE TELL YOU, AND AT THE PRICE WE TELL YOU, YOU'RE THE ONLY GUY HERE THAT HAS-N'T JOINED, WHAT DO YA SAY?
MY ANSWER IS NO, I HAVE A FAMILY TO SUPPORT AND I'VE BEEN DOING IT FOR YEARS WITHOUT YOUR HELP AND I DON'T WANT ANY DEALINS WITH YOU CITY CROOKS ANYWAY!
MAYBE THIS WILL CHANGE YOUR MIND!
...AND THIS!
BADLY BEATEN, KIRK IS LEFT SENSELESS...!

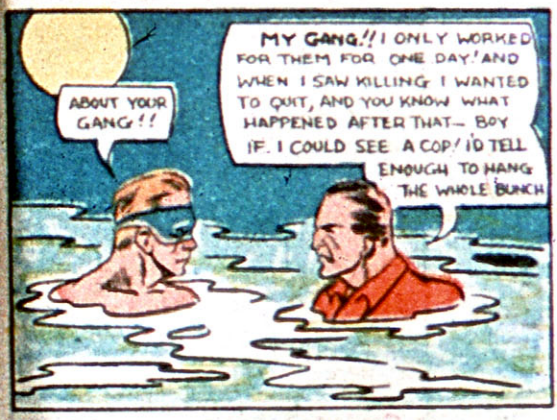

OK JOHNNY, STEP ON IT! WE GOT ONE MORE CALL TO MAKE TONIGHT!
AFTER BEATING KIRK, THE THUGS SPEED AWAY...
WHERE TO NOW BOSS' PHIL DAVIS PLACE?
YEA! AND THAT GUY IS A RAT, BESIDES NOT JOINING OUR UNION, HE TALKS TOO MUCH. WE'LL FIX HIM ONCE AND FOR ALL TONIGHT. YES SIR, ONCE AND FOR ALL
HELLO-O-O PHIL!
WHAT DO YOU CROOKS WANT NOW? YOU'VE BEAT ME TO A PULP TWICE, AND I STILL SAY I WON'T JOIN. BEAT ME AGAIN, GO AHEAD, BUT I WON'T SIGN
WE'VE ASKED YOU TO JOIN TOO MANY TIMES. GET INTO THAT CAR WAITING OUTSIDE!
NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO TO ME, I REFUSE TO SIGN UP WITH YOUR UNION — WHERE YOU TAKING ME?
TO THE OLD DESERT ED PIER—..!!
GET OUT AND START WALKING——..!!!
AFTER A SHORT DRIVE..
FEARFULL, BUT WITH COURAGE, ... HE WALKS DOWN TO THE END OF THE DOCK WHEN...


CHIEF! CHIEF, THE FISHERMEN GANG ARE AT IT AGAIN THEY KILLED DAVIS, AND "POP" KIRK WAS BEAT UP!
I HALF EXPECTED THIS!
AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS
-AND KIRK WOULDN'T TELL WHO THE GANGSTERS WERE, YOU DONT HAVE TO TELL ME THE FACTS OF THE CASE, I KNOW THEM BY HEART.— A MOB OF GANGSTERS FROM THE CITY COME HERE TO TAKE OVER THE FISHERIES, THEY CALL IT A UNION, IF YOU DON'T WANT TO JOIN THEY GIVE YOU THE WORKS, AND IF YOU SO MUCH AS OPEN YOUR MOUTH ABOUT IT THEY KILL YOU—WITHOUT ANY—
QUESTIONS, THEN AFTER THEY GET THE FISHERIES, THEY HOLD THE FISH, EVEN LET IT ROT, UNTIL THEY GET THE PRICES THEY WANT FROM THE LARGE CITY PLANTS WHO DEPEND ON THESE SMALL ONES— AND THEY PAY THE WORKERS OF THIS TOWN SUCH UNHEARD OF WAGES— AND WE CAN'T GET A SPOT OF EVIDENCE ON THEM, THEY HAVE TO BE STOPPED - STOPPED!!
EVEN IF WE HAVE TO USE UNETHICAL METHODS OF SECURING EVIDENCE!!
THE SHARK WATCHES WITH HIS TELEVISION
SO, THERE HAVE BEEN MURDERS AND ASSAULTS GOING ON IN THAT FISHING TOWN GUESS I'LL HAVE TO LOOK INTO THIS THING MORE THOROUGHLY
THE SHARK NOW WATCHES THE CROOKS
IT WAS A SNAP BOSS, AS SOON AS HE TURNED HIS BACK I LET HIM HAVE IT
YEA! YOU LET HIM HAVE IT, THATS THE BAD PART ABOUT IT ALL, WHEN I TOOK THIS JOB AS CHAUFFEUR, I KNEW THERE WOULD BE SOME DIRTY WORK, BUT I DIDN'T KNOW THERE WOULD BE MURDER. FROM NOW ON WHEN EVER YOU HAVE A JOB LIKE THAT, YOU GET A NEW DRIVER, I'LL DO ANYTHING BUT THAT!
IF I WERE YOU JOHNNY, I'D BE A LITTLE MORE EASY WITH MY WORDS... WHERE YOU GOING?
INTO THE OTHER ROOM TO GET A DRINK OF WATER, I DON'T LIKE THAT HAIR-TONIC YOU GUYS ARE DRINKING
NOWS MY CHANCE, I'LL WORK ON JOHNNY'S CONSCIENCE


THE SHARK COMES OUT OF THE GLASS OF WATER—— INVISIBLE
I AM YOUR THOUGHTS! WHY BE A SAP? YOU'RE NOT A MURDERER YOU'RE JUST A RACE TRACK BOOKIE, BUT HERE YOU ARE DRIVING A CAR FOR A BUNCH OF KILLERS, IF THEY WERE CAUGHT YOU'D GET THE "HOT SEAT" THE SAME AS THEY WOULD——
THOUGH YOU REALLY DO NOTHING BUT DRIVE THE CAR, YOU'RE NOT GETTING A SQUARE DEAL, THEY DON'T PAY YOU ENOUGH FOR THE RISK YOU TAKE, DON'T BE A SAP! LEAVE, TAKE WHAT YOU CAN AND LEAVE! LEAVE! TAKE WHAT YOU CAN AND LEAVE! LEAVE! LEAVE!!
AS MYSTERIOUSLY AS HE CAME, THE SHARK DISAPPEARS!
YEA! I'LL TAKE WHAT I CAN, AN' GO OUT THE BACK WAY
SPLASH!!
WHAT WAS THAT! EVEN MY NERVES ARE GOING BACK ON ME, AN THAT'S A BAD SIGN!!
AND IT WAS A BAD SIGN, FOR JUST AS HE TURNS HIS BACK TO START PACKING AGAIN
WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING JOHN? AND WITH OUR DOUGH TOO!!
HEY! BOYS! COME IN HERE AND ESCORT JOHNNY TO THE BACK SHED, HE TRIED TO RUN AWAY WITH OUR DOUGH!

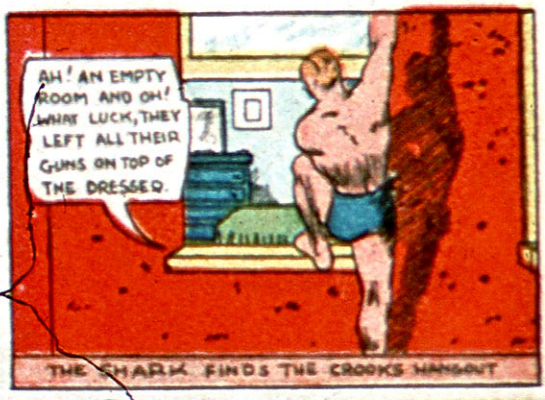

ALL RIGHT BOYS, BRING HIM IN HERE, TIE HIM TO THAT CHAIR AND TAKE HIS SHOES OFF, THE CEMENT IS ALMOST READY!
WAIT! THIS ISN'T HUMAN!! IT ISN'T HUMAN!! NO! NO! YOU CAN'T DO THIS! IT'S AGAINST THE LAW!
SURE! SURE! IT'S AGAINST THE LAW BUT SO WHAT? YOU AIN'T GOING TO SAY ANYTHING AT THE BOTTOM OF THE RIVER!
HEY! BOSS! HE FAINTED!!!!
JOHNNY IS SECURELY TIED, AND HIS FEET FORCED INTO A TUB OF SOFT CEMENT—
AFTER THE CEMENT HAD HARDENED, THEY DROVE HIM TO ONE OF THE DESERTED PIERS, THERE ONE OF THE THUGS TESTED THE HARDNESS OF THE CEMENT
THAT'S PLENTY HARD CHIEF, THE GUY WOULD HAVE TO HAVE DYNAMITE TO GET OUT OF THIS
BOY! THIS CEMENT WEIGH'S A TON! ONE! TWO! THREE!

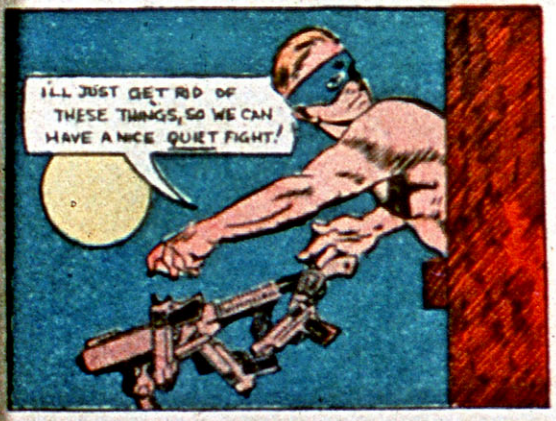

THE SHARK WATCHES
AND GOES INTO ACTION
GRABBING THE TUB OF CEMENT IN HIS IRON GRIP HE BREAKS IT OFF FROM AROUND JOHNNY'S LEG'S
AND THEN TAKES HIM TO THE SURFACE
WHERE AM I? WHAT HOW DID I GET OUT OF THE BUCKET OF CEMENT? YOU ! (UH!) HOW ?
HE COMES TO...
ALL RIGHT, JOHNNY START TALKING!
ABOUT WHAT?
6

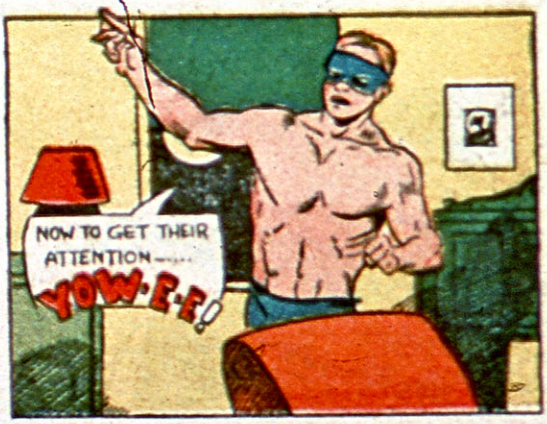

ABOUT YOUR GANG!!
MY GANG!! I ONLY WORKED FOR THEM FOR ONE DAY! AND WHEN I SAW KILLING I WANTED TO QUIT, AND YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENED AFTER THAT— BOY IF I COULD SEE A COP! I'D TELL ENOUGH TO HANG THE WHOLE BUNCH

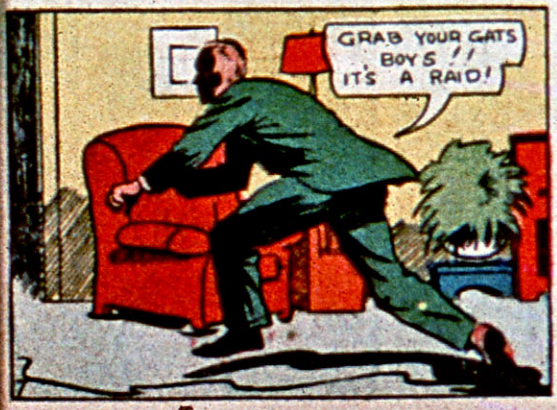

AS LONG AS YOU WANT TO TALK TO A COP SO BAD, GO DOWN TO THE CORNER AND YOU'LL FIND A POLICE STATION, BUT JUST GIVE ME A HALF HOUR WITH THE SKUNKS, JUST HALF AN HOUR!


NOW FOR THE FUN!

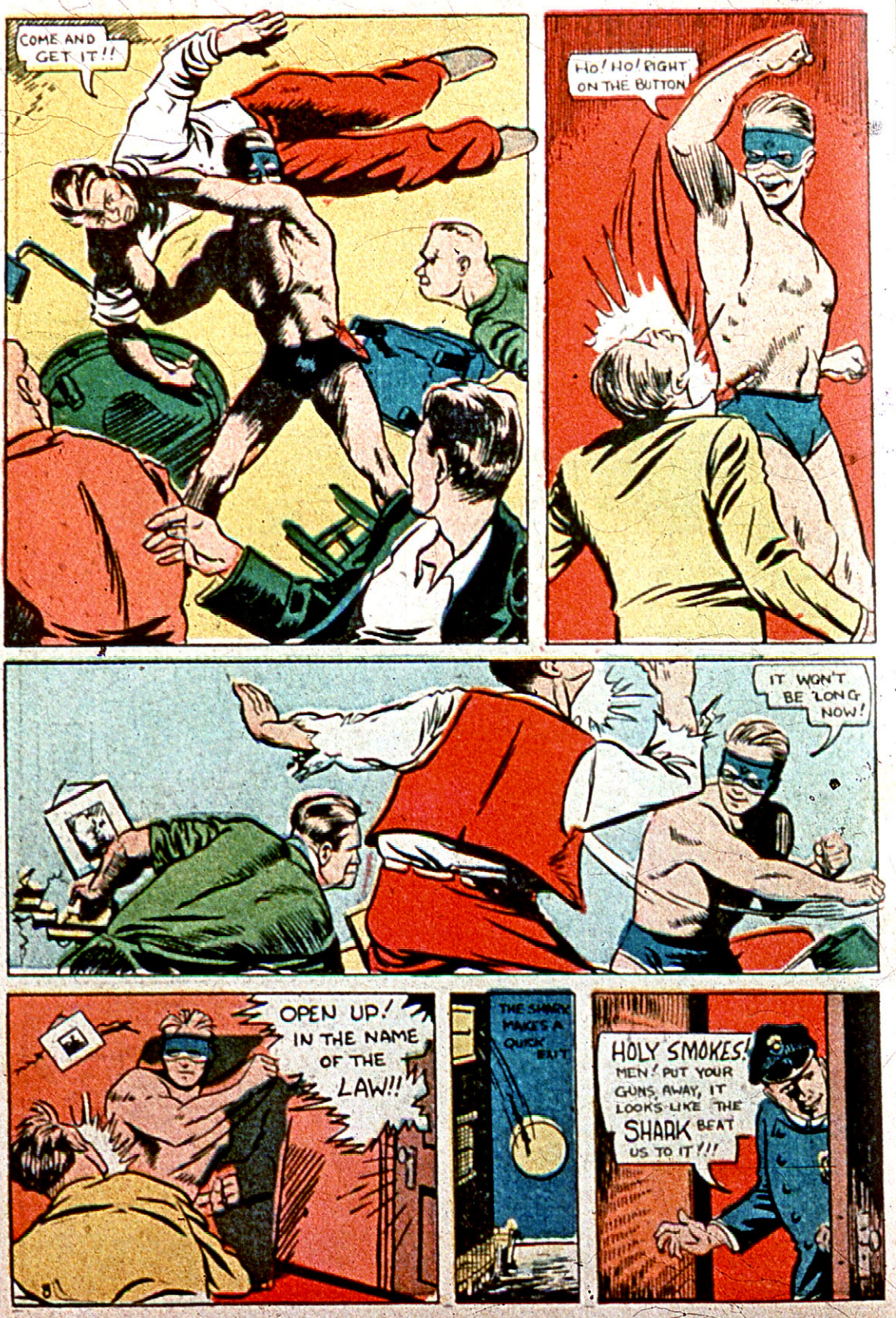

AH! AN EMPTY ROOM AND OH! WHAT LUCK, THEY LEFT ALL THEIR GUNS ON TOP OF THE DRESSER.
THE SHARK FINDS THE CROOKS HANGOUT

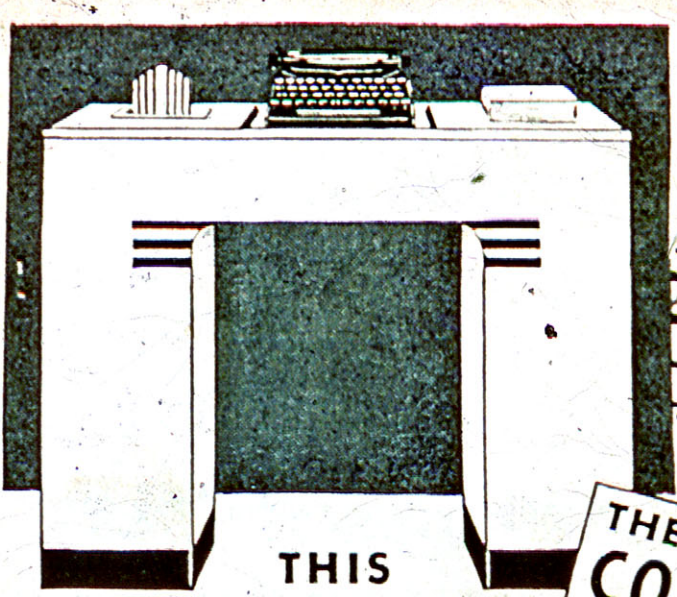

I'LL JUST GET RID OF THESE THINGS, SO WE CAN HAVE A NICE QUIET FIGHT!


NOW TO GET THEIR ATTENTION—
YOW-E-E!


GRAB YOUR GATS BOYS!! IT'S A RAID!


NO NEED TO GO FOR YOUR GUNS, GENTS— FOR ONCE YOUR GOING TO FIGHT A FAIR BATTLE—


COME AND GET IT!!
HO! HO! RIGHT ON THE BUTTON
IT WON'T BE LONG NOW!
OPEN UP! IN THE NAME OF THE LAW!!
THE SHARK MAKES A QUICK EXIT
HOLY SMOKES! MEN! PUT YOUR GUNS AWAY, IT LOOKS LIKE THE SHARK BEAT US TO IT!!!





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